

Sharon vows to settle million Jews in occupied lands

TEL AVIV (AP) — Housing Minister Ariel Sharon has pledged to settle a million Jews in and around Jerusalem, also on other land occupied in the 1967 Middle East war.

Mr. Sharon spoke Sunday night at a ceremony marking the 15th anniversary of the West Bank Jewish settlement Maaleh Adumim. His remarks came less than a week after President Bush criticised settlement building as counterproductive to peace and implored Israel to halt construction.

Israel radio said the minister promised 2,500 new apartments would be built in Maaleh Adumim over the next three years. The number would double the settlement's population, the radio said.

"All this is part of the government plan to settle in greater Jerusalem, and it will take a few years, a million Jews," Mr. Sharon told participants.

Newspapers reported in May that Mr. Sharon had pledged to build 36,000 housing units in West Bank settlements on the north, south and east borders of Jerusalem and in Jewish suburbs Israel has built around predomi-

nantly occupied Arab east Jerusalem.

Israel occupied east Jerusalem in the 1967 Middle East war and later annexed it as its capital. It also occupied the West Bank and the Gaza Strip in that war.

"Israel has no plan and will never have any plan to abandon the West Bank and Gaza," Mr. Sharon said in his speech, parts of which were broadcast on Israel army radio.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, meanwhile, told Jewish leaders that Israel's settlement activity was not meant as provocation and promised Israel would continue to build, Israel radio reported.

U.S. views on settlement building have drawn debate in Israel after hints that American aid to help settle Soviet Jews could be conditioned on Israel's cooperation in the peace process.

Shamir's government has requested \$10 billion in U.S. housing loan guarantees to help absorb more than 280,000 Soviet Jews who have arrived in the past two years and more than 700,000 others predicted to come of the next several years.

Palestinians distressed over exam cancellation

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) — Palestinian students, their education hit by persistent school closure imposed by Israel, suffered another setback this week when Jordan suspended pre-university exams in the occupied West Bank because of cheating.

Palestinian educators said Monday the situation jeopardised the future of some 15,000 secondary school students taking two-week examinations to enter university.

"This is going to affect students drastically. It is one more blow in the ongoing deterioration of Palestinian education," said Munir Fashet, an education researcher in Arab Jerusalem.

Palestinians, long regarded as the most educated people in the Arab World, have seen a drastic fall in academic standards and a surge in cheating since the uprising against Israeli rule erupted in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip 43 months ago.

Mr. Fashet said that without examination results endorsed by Jordan, young Palestinians would not be accepted at universities in any Arab state.

Israel closed the largest three Palestinian universities in the occupied territories in the early days of the uprising on the grounds that they were flash-points of unrest. It has allowed a few small colleges to re-open in the past year.

Palestinian students and educators said students cheated because Israeli military closures and curfews have cost them half of all school days during the uprising.

Palestinian schools also close on strike days called by the underground unified leadership of the Intifada.

"The students are paying the price for a situation they are not fully in control of. They are not prepared because of the closures. If they are not prepared, they fail or cheat — and they have resorted to cheating," said Khalil Mahshi, principal of a private school in the West Bank town of Ramallah.

In Amman, the secretary-general of the Education Ministry told the Jordan Times the ministry would decide whether to resume exams "once a suitable education climate guarantees a sound course of examination prevails."

The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) welcomed the

Jordanian decision as timely and correct but appealed to the international community to put an end to "the Israeli plot to destroy education in the occupied territories."

Mr. Mahshi said that he did not oppose the Jordanian decision.

"It may not be the best solution, but it is a very serious warning to students cheating that the exam will not continue under conditions of cheating. A better solution might have been to cancel it where cheating occurred," he told Reuters.

He said cheating was widespread during the Intifada but had dropped significantly this year after a campaign in the Palestinian press and in West Bank communities to halt it.

Last year, Jordan subtracted points from all West Bank students due to cheating and scores were unusually low.

Jerusalem newspapers ran banner headlines in red announcing the Jordanian decision this week. Palestinians held marathon meetings Monday to decide what steps to take.

"There is anger, a lot of anger and disappointment," said a Palestinian intellectual who asked not to be identified.

"This is the most important test in a student's life. There are 15,000 who sit for exams and this means they don't know what will be," he told Reuters.

Soldier still holding out in Cyprus siege

NICOSIA (R) — A teenage soldier who briefly kidnapped four women soldiers at gunpoint was still holding troops at bay at a British army base in Cyprus Monday as the siege entered its fourth day.

"The soldier is contained and we are continuing our efforts on negotiations for a peaceful outcome," a spokesman said. He would not say what contact there had been with the 19-year-old private.

The spokesman said the private, armed with a rifle, had been on guard duty early Friday when he left his post and took the four women soldiers hostage at a barracks.

Kuwait 'parliament' convenes today

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwait's interim national assembly meets on Tuesday for first time since the emirate was freed from Iraqi occupation but the move is unlikely to satisfy opposition demands for greater democracy.

Opponents, who dismissed the assembly as toothless, plan a session to press demands for a swift return to parliamentary democracy as Kuwait tries to rebuild its political institutions following the Gulf war.

"We want the people to be allowed to practise their right to decide how the country is run and, more importantly, how it should be rebuilt after liberation," said Abdulla Nibari, leader of the Kuwait Democratic Forum and a veteran member of an elected parliament which was suspended five years ago.

The emir, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, suspended parliament and the country's 1962 constitution at the height of the

1980-88 Iran-Iraq war, citing foreign conspiracy.

The move followed a spate of bombings and an attempt on the emir's life. A purely consultative body with no legislative powers was set up last year to replace the directly elected parliament dissolved in 1986.

The opposition believes the 75-seat National Council is an illegitimate form of parliamentary representation because it has no legislative power. One-third of the members are picked directly by the emir.

The council met only once before Iraq invaded Kuwait on Aug. 2, 1990.

The opposition believes it has a unique opportunity to demand the return of basic rights under the constitution such as an elected parliament, press freedom and the right to hold political gatherings.

The emir has already promised parliamentary election for October 1992 but the opposition is

determined to push for an early return to democracy.

The opposition will have to tread carefully.

Its own gathering being held at the house of former parliamentary speaker Ahmed Al Saadoun is officially illegal because no more than 20 people are allowed to congregate without government permission.

A few hundred people are expected to attend the meeting of a coalition of seven opposition groups ranging from university liberals to Muslim fundamentalists.

"Our meeting is a message to the world that the image the government is trying to project of democracy in Kuwait is a fake one. The National Council does not represent the people," Mr. Saadoun said.

Interior ministry officials say police will not intervene as long as the proceedings remain calm. The opposition boycotted last year's elections for two-thirds of

the seats in the National Council which is now determined to prove its worth as an independent voice.

The assembly plans a number of initiatives including a proposal to give every Kuwaiti up to 20,000 dinars in cash as a way of luring citizens back to the country. About half of the emirate's 700,000 citizens are believed to have stayed abroad although the war ended four months ago.

"I am convinced that the government will always side with the proposals that are in the people's interest," the president of the council, Abdul Aziz Al Massaad, said last week.

Kuwait is still grappling with security problems after seven months of Iraqi occupation.

Shootings and beatings still occur daily and the government has been unable to persuade people to band in weapons abandoned by the Iraqi army after it left Kuwait in February.

Hizbollah blames U.S. for delay in hostage release

BEIRUT, Lebanon (Agencies) — The leader of the Iranian-backed Hizbollah, or Party of God, was quoted Monday as accusing the United States once again of delaying the release of Western hostages in Lebanon.

"America is playing with the issue of the Western hostages as a political card," Abbas Musawi told Beirut's Al Anwar daily.

"Hence, it is complicating the issue by not pressuring Israel to free the prisoners it holds."

Mr. Musawi said Iran had shown willingness to mediate a prisoner exchange that would gain the freedom of the Western hostages.

Most of the 13 Westerners missing in Lebanon — six Americans, four Britons, two Germans and an Italian — are believed held by pro-Iranian Shiite Muslim extremists.

"If America really wanted to free the American hostages, it would have responded to the Iranian gesture by bringing pressure to bear on the Israeli enemy to release the Muslim prisoners," Mr. Musawi said.

"The ball is now in the American court and not in that of the Islamic Republic or that of the Muslims," he stressed.

Various kidnappers and Hizbollah, which is believed to be the umbrella organisation for some of them, have repeatedly demanded the release of 400 Shiite and Palestinian prisoners in Israeli jails as a precondition to freeing the Westerners.

More than 300 Arab prisoners are held in the Khiam detention camp in Israel's self-designated "security zone" in South Lebanon. The camp is controlled by Israel's militia ally, the South Lebanon Army.

Other Lebanese and Palestinian are held in Israeli prisons. They include thousands of Palestinians detained during the 42-month-old uprising against Israeli occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Hizbollah has also demanded the release of Sheikh Abdul Karim Obeid, a spiritual leader of Hizbollah in South Lebanon. He was kidnapped from his home in Jibsheh by Israeli commandos on July 28, 1989, and is believed held in Israel.

Mr. Musawi and Sheikh Mohammad Mehdi Shamseddine, the highest-ranking Shiite cleric in Lebanon, recently said that Israeli prisoners of war in Lebanon should be freed as well.

Seven Israeli soldiers are missing in Lebanon, some since the early days of Israel's 1982 invasion. Hizbollah claims to hold two of them.

Mr. Musawi also accused the SLA of mistreating prisoners in Khiam.

"There are plenty of young men being horribly tortured in Khiam prison, while the international conscience and media are making no move on their plight," he complained.

"We feel responsible toward those prisoners and, therefore,

efforts should be exerted to save those captives," he added.

Meanwhile, the commander of the Israeli-backed militia in South Lebanon renewed an offer Monday for a prisoner swap.

Gen. Antoine Lahad told reporters that he was willing to trade Lebanese and Palestinians held by his SLA militia for Israeli soldiers and SLA fighters held in Lebanon.

While release of Palestinians and members of the Shiite Muslim Hizbollah faction have been demanded as a condition for freeing the 13 Westerners missing in Lebanon, Gen. Lahad said the hostages were not his concern.

He said "this is a problem which concerns Syria and Iran — Iran through the pressure it has on Hizbollah, Syria because it controls the Lebanese land and should know where these hostages are."

Gen. Lahad's militia, which is trained and financed by Israel, controls a 1,100-square-kilometre strip north of the Lebanon-Israel boundary line.

"If there are contacts or an arrangement for exchange of detainees in Khiam against the release of the Israeli detainees with Hizbollah or other organisations and SLA detainees with Hizbollah or other organisations, this can be contemplated and done," Gen. Lahad said.

"Otherwise the question of prisoners of Khiam cannot be dealt with," he added.

Yugoslav, Slovene leaders agree on formula

(Continued from page 1)

Slovenia since its lightly armed forces repulsed army tanks and warplanes seeking to reimpose Yugoslav sovereignty over the republic's borders with Italy, Austria and Hungary.

The violence in Slovenia left 62 people dead, the Red Cross said. Under the accord, Slovenian police will control the republic's 27 border posts a symbol for Slovenes of their long-sought sovereignty but turn over revenue from customs duties to the federal government.

EC mediators, who have interceded three times since the independence declarations on crisis missions. Helped broker the accord.

The EC representative to the talks, Dutch Foreign Minister Hans van den Broek, called the agreement complex and cautioned against over-optimism: "It remains to be seen whether we have had any success."

The agreement also called on both sides to release all prisoners of war. Monday, the army gener-

al staff announced that the last remaining army prisoners captured by Slovene defence forces had been released overnight.

Slovenia had held more than 2,400 federal army prisoners captured during fighting with Yugoslav forces since the republic's independence declaration. All but 91 officers had been freed before Sunday.

The agreement also calls for federal army units to return to their barracks, the deactivation of the Slovene territorial defence and a return to quarters by mid-night Monday (2200 GMT). There was no word on whether the army would abide by the accord.

The army, which is dominated by officers from the hardline Republic of Serbia, did not heed civilian authority when it intervened in Slovenia. Leaders in Croatia and Slovenia said they believe the army is still not under the control of the government.

Thirty-five to 50 EC observers are to arrive Tuesday to begin to monitor compliance with the ceasefire and terms of the accord.

Slovenian Foreign Minister Dimitrij Rupel said.

In Croatia, the army stepped in Sunday after it was fired on while trying to separate battling Croatian militiamen and armed Serbs in the village of Tenja, Tanjug said.

A ceasefire took effect after 10 hours of fighting, the report said. The village is in Slavonia, a swath of Croatia primarily inhabited by Serbs, and is home to 8,000 Serbs.

Belgrade radio reported 10 Croatian and two Serbian fighters died in the clash, and Croatian militiamen told an Associated Press reporter in Tenja that at least four of their own were killed and 15 wounded. The army said one soldier was killed.

The civilian Serbs in Tenja said Monday that two of their fighters were killed and 18 hurt. They also claimed 30 Croats died after being trapped in a house.

Serbia's hardline nationalist president, Slobodan Milosevic, has threatened to annex parts of Croatia where Serbs are in the majority.

Qadhafi: Egyptians can take part in Libyan politics

NICOSIA (R) — Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi, pushing for his elusive dream of Arab unity, says Egyptians can take part in Libya's internal politics.

"As of now, it is the Arab Egyptian's right to practice politics through (Libya's) people's congresses and popular committees," he said in a speech Sunday night to celebrate the exchange of documents ratifying agreements to boost economic and political cooperation between Libya and Egypt.

"Authority in the Great Jamahiriya (Libya) is in the hand of the people," the Libyan news agency (JANA) quoted him as saying.

The celebration in the Libyan coastal city of Benghazi was attended by Egyptian Prime Minister Atef Sedki, who took part in meetings of the joint Egyptian-Libyan "Higher Committee for Integration."

The 10 pacts, ratified by the Egyptian parliament and Libya's General People's Congress earlier this year, cover areas of trade, oil, politics, culture and customs.

Libya hopes the move would speed up a merger with Egypt. Cairo newspapers said Saturday the Benghazi talks would open the way for implementing a \$100-million barter deal.

After the ratification, "Egypt and the Nile (River) is now in the possession of both Libyans and Egyptians as is the land of Libya, its oil and potentials," JANA, monitored in Cyprus, quoted Col. Qadhafi as saying.

Egyptian-Libyan relations, marred for years over differences on Middle East policy, have improved since Col. Qadhafi met Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak at an Arab summit in Morocco in 1989.

Referring to his previous failed attempts to merge with Egypt, Tunisia, Sudan, Syria and Morocco, Col. Qadhafi said:

"We have faced bitter experiences full of beneficial lessons and therefore we have a strong determination... we will not retract from our decision on merging with Egypt in particular."

"Cairo should be the capital of the Arabs... the liberation of Palestine begins from Egypt."

Col. Qadhafi said Sudan, whose relations with Egypt were strained after Khartoum supported Iraq in the Gulf crisis, should also join in the unity talks.

MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

Turkish police kill 6 Kurdish Rebels

SILOPI, Turkey (R) — Turkish security forces killed six Kurdish guerrillas in an operation following weekend rebel attacks on police stations in the southeast, officials said Monday. Police also detained 21 suspects after the guerrilla attacks in areas where allied troops are based on the Turkish-Iraqi border. Sources close to the allied forces said U.S. soldiers were placed on alert after about 20 members of the outlawed Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK) fired rockets at police stations in the border town of Silopi. Three wounded Turkish soldiers were being treated at a U.S. military hospital. The PKK rebels have been fighting the central government since 1981 in a separatist campaign which has claimed more than 3,000 lives. The group has stepped up activities since the end of the Gulf war in late February. Officials say more than 75 people have been killed in the past six weeks.

Qadhafi accepts Rafsanjani's invitation

NICOSIA (R) — Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi has accepted an invitation from President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani to visit Iran. The Iranian news agency IRNA reported. It quoted a press release from Mr. Rafsanjani's office as saying Col. Qadhafi "warmly welcomed" the idea during a telephone conversation. No date was mentioned for the visit. Col. Qadhafi last month played host to Mr. Rafsanjani's wife. IRNA said Col. Qadhafi invited Mr. Rafsanjani to attend celebrations marking the inauguration of the multi-billion dollar "Great Man-Made River" project. The 2,000-kilometre pipeline will link the Libyan desert in the south to farmland along the Mediterranean. It did not say when the inauguration would take place.

Mild quake in western Iran province

NICOSIA (AP) — A mild earthquake shook the western Iranian city of Khorramabad late Sunday, the Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) reported. There were no immediate reports of casualties or damage, it said. The Geophysics Institute of Tehran University said the quake measured 4.2 on the Richter scale, according to IRNA. The scale is a gauge of the energy released by an earthquake. A quake of magnitude four can cause moderate damage. IRNA said the quake was felt shortly before 10 p.m. (1830 GMT) and sent worried families onto the streets. The tremor also was felt in the nearby cities of Kouchdash and Poldokhtar, it said.

Iranian paper lashes out at France

TEHRAN (R) — A Tehran newspaper Monday said France's refusal to accept Iranian terms on settling a billion-dollar row was an insult to Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati. The Tehran Times said: "In the latest trip of Velayati to Paris, the French raised new problems which can only be considered a retreat from the initial accord reached between the two countries." Velayati's failure to sign an agreement in his trip is considered in itself an insult against him. The contradictory and paradoxical attitude of the French can never help in the further expansion of bilateral ties," French newspapers said Iran asked for supplies of enriched uranium and this had prevented Foreign Minister Roland Dumas from signing an accord on Thursday with Mr. Velayati who returned home leaving the financial dispute unresolved. The Tehran Times said: "It does not seem plausible that Iran would suddenly ask for enriched uranium in the midst of a financial dispute and while there is a debate raging over past contracts." Mr. Velayati was in Paris to negotiate the final points of an agreement on repayment of a \$1-billion loan to France by the late Shah, and compensation claimed by French firms for contracts cancelled after Iran's revolution in 1979.

Bashir retires army chief-of-staff

KHARTOUM (R) — Sudan's military leader has retired his army chief-of-staff, Lieutenant-General Isma'il Ibrahim Omar, state-run television announced Sunday night. The station said he was being replaced by one of his deputies, Lieutenant-General Hassan Abdul Rahman Ali. No reason was given. Sudan's leader, Lieutenant-General Omar Hassan Al Bashir appointed Gen. Omar chief-of-staff on seizing power from Prime Minister Sadeq Al Mahdi in 1989, but did not include him in the ruling 13-man junta. Gen. Bashir is also minister of defence and commander-in-chief of the army which has been fighting rebels of the Sudan People's Liberation army in south Sudan since 1983.

U.N. relief agency returns to Ethiopia

ADDIS ABABA (R) — U.N. relief workers are back helping Sudanese refugees in western Ethiopia after pulling out of the area two months ago because of insecurity, the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) said Monday. It said 16 staff had gone to the area and an airlift to transport 1,700 tonnes of food aid to the refugees began from the Ethiopian capital Addis Ababa Monday. A convoy of 13 long-haul trucks carrying 300 tonnes of food arrived in the western town of Gambella Saturday, a UNHCR statement said. Some 400,000 refugees from the civil war in Sudan were camped in western Ethiopia. But many fled back into Sudan during the fighting in May which ousted military dictator Mengistu Haile Mariam and brought the Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front (EPRDF) to power. The western region remained insecure for several weeks.

Heroin bound for Nigeria seized in Beirut

BEIRUT (AP) — customs officials at Beirut international airport confiscated 5.9 kilograms of partially processed heroin from two women bound for Nigeria, police said Monday. A police official said the two women detained Sunday night for questioning by the police department's anti-narcotics bureau were Eunice Oladipo, 35, and Jennifer Hernig, 31. The official said the drugs were concealed in the women's suitcases. He estimated the resale value at \$90,000. He refused to give further details. It was the second drug bust in two months involving a flight bound for Nigeria, police said. Since 1989, Lebanon has emerged as a major source of Heroin production. There are reportedly some 10 heroin processing plants in the country.

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 773111-19

PROGRAMME TWO

18:00 Documentary
18:30 Sitcom Cauche
19:00 News in French
19:15 Aujourd'hui en Jordanie
19:30 News in Hebrew
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Perfect Strangers
21:10 Our House
22:00 News in English
22:20 Columbo

PRAYER TIMES

05:58 Fajr
05:32 (Sunrise) Dhuhr
12:41 Dhuhr
16:21 Asr
19:49 Maghrib
21:23 Isha

CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church, Swifeth Tel. 810740.
Assemblies of God Church, Tel. 632785, 685326.
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590.
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440.
De la Salle Church Tel. 661757

TERRESTRIAL CHURCH

Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623541.
Anglican Church Tel. 625383, Tel. 628543.
Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 711331.
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 717521.
St. Ephraim Church Tel. 717521.
Armenian International Church Tel. 685326.
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 811295.
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Tel. 823824, 654932.
Church of the Nazarene Tel. 675691

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

It will be fair and winds will be northwesterly moderate. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate.

Min./max. temp.
Amman 16/28
Aqaba 22/36
Dscrts 17/34
Jordan Valley 23/35

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 27, Aqaba 35. Humidity readings:

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Amman 64 per cent, Aqaba 30 per cent.

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:
Dr. Hashim Kanan 790289
Dr. Anwar Musa Al Hoi 771020
Dr. Adel Ammani 812148
Dr. Saleh Zayed 768077
Firas pharmacy 661912
Ferdous pharmacy 778336
Al Asena pharmacy 637055
Nairokh pharmacy 625072
Al Salam pharmacy 636730
Yacoub pharmacy 644945
Shumassan pharmacy 637660

AMMAN:
Dr. Ali Shugairi (—)
Al Sharan pharmacy 2758251
ZARQA:
Dr. Issa Al Omari (—)
Khalifah pharmacy 985417

EMERGENCIES

Food Control Centre 637111
Civil Defence Department 661111
Civil Defence Emergency 630341
Rescue 624002
Rescue Police 192, 621111, 637777
Fire Brigade 891228
Blood Bank 775121
Highway Police 824002
Traffic Police 986300
Public Security Department 630321
Hotel Complaints 608800
Price Complaints 661176
Water and Sewerage 897467
Complaints 897467
Amman Municipality 787111
Complaints 897467
Telephone Information (directory assistance) 121
Overseas Calls 910230
Central Amman Telephone 623101
Repairs 623101
Abdali Telephone Repairs 661101
Jordan Television 773111
Radio Jordan 774111
RJ Flight Information 08-53200

HOSPITALS

Queen Alia Int. Airport 08-53200
AMMAN:
Hussein Medical Centre 813813/32
Khalidi Maternity, J. Ann. 642816
Albakh Maternity, J. Ann. 642412
Jabal Amman Maternity 642822
Malhas, J. Amman 636140
Palestine, Shmeirani 664171/4
Shmeirani Hospital 669131
University Hospital 845845
Al-Musabir Hospital 667227/9
The Islamic, Abdali 666127/37
Al-Ahli, Abdali 6641646
Rakhan, Al-Muhajir 77101/3
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh 775111/26
Army, Marka 891611/15
Queen Alia Hospital 60224050
Annal Hospital 674155
ZARQA:
Zarqa Govt. Hospital 09998333
Zarqa National Hospital 09990050
Ibn Sina Hospital 09996732
DRBID:
Princess Basma Hospital 02275555
Greek Catholic Hospital 02272275
Ibn Al Nafes Hospital 02247100

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

IATA to inaugurate Amman regional office

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Geneva-based International Air Transport Association (IATA) Tuesday will inaugurate its Middle East regional office in Amman and will sign a memorandum of understanding with the Jordanian government providing for the office's services to the Arab region.

IATA's move marks the re-introduction of the organisation's regional office to the Middle East. Originally, IATA's Regional office was based in Beirut. But because of the long civil war in Lebanon, IATA officials made the decision to move the office to Geneva.

The move of the office to Amman came after the Jordanian government offered to help IATA relocate to the Middle East. The choice to move to Amman is seen as especially significant because of the approval of all Arab countries' airlines.

The announcement was made by the Jordan News Agency, Petra, which said that different matters related to the operations of the office were reviewed by IATA Director General Gunter Ester and Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Transport Ali Suheimat.

The two officials discussed

cooperation between IATA and Jordan in general and the facilities which the Jordanian government will provide for the new regional office, which is to be formally opened Tuesday.

An official from the Royal Jordanian (RJ), the national air carrier, told the Jordan Times that the regional office would be housed close to RJ's head office in the Housing Bank centre in Amman.

Mr. Suheimat and Dr. Ester will sign the memorandum of understanding and address a press conference Tuesday to give further details about the agreement, according to an RJ statement.

RJ Chief Executive Officer Husam Abu Ghazaleh was present at the Monday meeting which discussed coordination among IATA, RJ and the other Arab airlines.

The memorandum provides for IATA to benefit from Jordanian air transport expertise and to employ Jordanians in posts related to administrative and supervisory affairs in civil aviation.

IATA, which represents 120 world airlines, was founded in 1945 to promote safe, regular and economic air transport, to develop air commerce and to provide a means of international air transport collaboration.



Her Majesty Queen Noor Monday watches a Sweimeh mother weaving a broom as part of the Broom and basket project being implemented in the area (Petra photo)

Queen inspects implementation of projects in Sweimeh village

SOUTH SHUNEH (J.T.) — Her Majesty Queen Noor Al Hussein Monday visited Sweimeh village where a "quality of life project" is being implemented by Noor Al Hussein Foundation (NHF) to help improve the standard of living of the village residents and provide better public services.

The Queen, accompanied by officials, toured the various parts of the village and met its mayor and council members who provided a briefing on the projects already implemented.

The Queen distributed title deeds for housing units to local residents and diplomas to the graduates of a training course on mother and child care organised by the Health Ministry.

Towards the end of the visit, the Queen met members of the Village's Mother and Child Club

and heard their demands and needs.

It was under the Queen's directives in 1988 that the project started for the development of the village of Sweimeh, which is located in the central Jordan Valley region, near the Dead Sea.

The Health Ministry, in cooperation with the World Health Organisation (WHO) office in Amman, embarked on a health scheme for the village and several projects have already begun.

According to a NHF statement, the zoning and mapping of the village was authorised by the Jordan Valley Authority (JVA). A decision was taken to assign 20 residential units for 20 families and 20 more will follow, the statement said.

The statement said that among

those completing a training course in mother and child care were 15 local women who received their training at the local health clinics run by the Health Ministry.

Other projects being implemented by the NHF in the area include: the broom and basket production project, the fish pond, which will benefit 10 families; fruit tree planting, which entails the distribution of 750 saplings to 80 families and raising goats.

According to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, similar projects are being implemented in the villages of Bassah, in the Amman area, Kunia, in the Zarqa Governorate, Dana, in the Tafleh Governorate and Hashemeh in the Zarqa Governorate.

Seminar assesses pilot village school project

By Elia Nasrallah

Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A seminar was organised in Amman Monday by the Ministry of Education and the regional office of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) to make an evaluation of a pilot project which aims at focusing attention on the role of the village school in human resources development.

UNESCO Representative Salah Yaqoub said that the village school pilot project was one aspect of educational innovation and a means for promoting community development.

Dr. Yaqoub said UNESCO was willing to fully cooperate with the Ministry of Education in all matters related to promoting the role of the village school in developing local communities in the Kingdom.

The pilot project is being implemented within the Ministry of Education's 1990-1991 expansion scheme in cooperation with UNESCO.

Commenting on the seminar, Dr. Yaqoub said that a total of seven villages are now

involved but it was hoped that 150 more villages could be included within the next three years, especially if the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) is encouraged to provide financial help.

Dr. Yaqoub told the Jordan Times that the initial stages of the project started in 1988 when UNESCO allocated funds to help the Ministry of Education start the project in limited areas.

UNESCO has now received sufficient funds to operate 20 such pilot schools in villages near Amman, Zarqa and Irbid, Dr. Yaqoub said.

He said that this new project was aimed at benefiting students of expatriate families, returning to Jordan from the Gulf region.

Representatives of various international organisations operating in Jordan and the Ministry of Education were present at the meeting.

Minister calls for implementation comprehensive educational plan

AMMAN (Petra) — Education Minister Eid Dahiyat Sunday said that the ministry's strategy during the next stage would be governed by the directives and major guidelines of the comprehensive educational development plan.

At a meeting with directors of education departments, Dr. Dahiyat called for mobilising all available resources to implement the educational development plan which is the "crowning effort of the Ministry of Education."

Dr. Dahiyat said that the ministry was pressing ahead with the implementation of the educational development plan and described it as a scientific revolution in the area of administrative development.

He called for reviving the idea of Al Hussein camps for youth saying that they enhance the sense of belonging and encourage team work.

He also stressed the need for enhancing the concept of institutional work at the various ministry departments and called for achieving a qualitative leap in the education methodology.

The minister underlined the importance of changing the methods of education with a view to concentrating on discussion, dialogue and analytical methods rather than the dictation and memorisation method.

Dr. Dahiyat emphasised the need for encouraging innovative thinking and ensuring an atmosphere of freedom where criticism

and freedom of expression can thrive. He also called for strengthening channels of dialogue and communication between teachers and parents councils and the community at large.

Second sit-in in a week protests conditions of Palestinians in Israeli jails

By Odeh Odeh

Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — For the second time in less than a week groups of people staged a sit-in at the head office of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in protest against the inhuman treatment of Palestinians jailed in Israeli prisons.

"Who will stop the sufferings of our sons in Israeli jails?" asked Jordanian and Palestinian women as they stood for several hours under the sun in front of the ICRC office.

Palestinian prisoners have been holding an open hunger strike since June 23 to protest ill-treatment by their Israeli jailers. At least 18,000 Palestinian prisoners in five Israeli prisons are participating in the strike.

Issam Abdul Hadi, president of the Palestinian Women's Federation

in Jordan and one of the organisers, said that the sit-in, which lasted from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. was organised in cooperation with Jordanian and Palestinian women groups and relatives of the imprisoned people.

She said that the sit-in was to voice the Arab people's anger over the bad treatment of the Palestinian detainees who are deprived of proper food, hygiene and clothes and are exposed to physical torture.

The protesters raised posters calling for food and medicine to be provided by international organisations and the ICRC to the Palestinian prisoners and detainees.

The last sit-in in front of the ICRC was held Tuesday, July 2, when 400 people took part in the peaceful protest.

Following the sit-in, the participants handed the ICRC officials a

note deploring the inhuman treatment of the Palestinian men and women in Israeli jails and calling on world organisations to force Israel to respect the Palestinian people's human rights and international laws and rules with regard to the treatment of prisoners of war and political prisoners.

The note pointed out that the prisoners were deprived of food, medicine and medical care, and this led to the death of many of them. It said that the prisoners live under very severe conditions. They are placed in solitary confinement or under the sun for hours on end. Many prisoners are systematically tortured or interrogated.

The note appealed to the ICRC to ensure the release of the detainees, to provide international protection to the Palestinian citizens and to help the Palestinians regain their legitimate rights in their own homeland.



Relatives of Palestinian prisoners and detainees in Israeli prisons Monday held their second protest in front of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) offices in Amman (Photo by Youssef Al-Arian)

Gulf students sit for exams in Amman

PLO supports decision on tawjihi examinations

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Monday voiced support for a decision taken by the Ministry of Education in Amman to suspend tawjihi examinations in the occupied West Bank schools for this year and accused the Israeli authorities of being behind the obstacles that impeded normal procedures in the examination halls.

PLO Executive Committee Member Abdul Razzaq Al Yahya told the Jordan News Agency, Petra, that the suspension of the examination session was taken in coordination with the PLO's Higher Education Department and upon recommendations from the authorised Palestinian institutions in the occupied West Bank.

The decision was taken following reports that widespread cheating occurred during the English language examination, Brigadier Abdul Razzaq Al Yahya said.

Reports reaching here from the West Bank said that the Israeli authorities had opened the examination halls and allowed irresponsible elements to sabotage the examination process with the purpose of creating anarchy, said Brig. Yahya. "The Israeli authorities are held fully responsible for the disruption of the examination," he added.

"The Ministry of Education's decision to suspend the examination was absolutely necessary to stop the cheating," Brig. Yahya said.

In announcing the suspension decision, the ministry Saturday blamed lack of order in the examination halls and interference by citizens in the examination process.

Ministry Secretary General Munther Al Masri said that resumption of the examination would take place once a favourable educational climate has been guaranteed.

Dr. Masri said that up to 12,000 students were affected by the decision.

Brig. Yahya voiced appreciation to Jordan for its continued cooperation with the Higher Education Department in organising the examination process.

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nising the examination and running school curricula in the West Bank despite the numerous difficulties.

He appealed to educational institutions and parents of students in the West Bank to take steps to protect the educational process and prevent any tampering with it.

Brig. Yahya also appealed to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) to help end what he called Israel's sabotage of the Palestinian educational process.

Meanwhile, the Ministry of Education here Monday organised a tawjihi examination session for 132 male and female students, who arrived here from the Gulf countries, in the literary and scientific streams.

The ministry provided three examination halls in Amman, Zarqa and Irbid and said that the examinations were being organised following a decision by the Minister of Education to allow the students to sit for the examinations in Jordan.

Duleil inhabitants complain about animal farms

ZARQA (Petra) — The 30,000 inhabitants of Duleil, within the Zarqa Governorate, are suffering from the bad smells caused by the presence of cattle and sheep farms within the municipality's boundaries and are raising complaints with the concerned authorities.

Mayor Akram Al Awadat said in a statement that four such farms exist within the town and 60 close to it; all are set up without proper study or planning with the municipal council and without consideration to the negative consequences on the general environment.

Mr. Awadat urged the concerned authorities to take speedy measures and find solutions to this chronic problem.

Agriculture Department Director in Zarqa Ibrahim Abu Ateleh said that the problem of the presence of animal farms in Duleil was an old one and the Ministry of Agriculture was trying to deal with the problem by refraining from issuing licences for new farms without the municipality's approval.

The municipality itself is empowered to prevent the establishment of any farm within its borders unless the project is approved by the Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment, Mr. Abu Ateleh said.

He said that the Ministry of Agriculture would pursue this issue and try to find a solution that would safeguard livestock wealth, on the one hand, and to protect public health and the environment on the other.

According to Mr. Abu Ateleh, the Zarqa Governorate is now raising nearly 306,000 heads of goats and sheep, but 60,000 of these have been removed from outside the town's boundaries. He said that there was a total of 5,826 heads of cattle, about 4,000 of which have been moved outside the Duleil area.

The Deputy Governor of Zarqa Governorate, Mr. Ghalib Izmegna, said that his office would conduct an inspection tour of the whole region to study the situation and to find ways of ensuring proper and effective solutions.

Public holiday announced

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Taher Masri Monday issued a communique announcing that Saturday, July 13, 1991, will be a public holiday on the occasion of the new Hijra year. All government departments and institutions, as well as public establishments, will be closed Saturday in observance of the occasion, according to the communique.

WHAT'S GOING ON

EXHIBITIONS

- ★ An exhibition of paintings and sculptures by Showqi Sheekini, Mohammad Al Jalous and Rifq Al Razzaq at Abdul Hameed Sheram Foundation 10 a.m. — 5 p.m.
- ★ Ceramics exhibition by Margaret Tadros and Najwa Annah at the Spanish Cultural Centre.
- ★ Embroidery exhibition at Jordan Intercontinental Hotel.
- ★ Exhibition of paintings by Maysoon Sawalha, Bassam Silawi and Youssef Al Bis at Yarmouk University.
- ★ Art exhibition by Khalid Maazi at the Royal Cultural Centre.

LECTURES

- ★ Lecture entitled "Measuring the Fit of New Public Buildings to Old" by Dr. Farooq Yaghmour at the Goethe Institute — 7:00 p.m.

HOME NEWS IN BRIEF

Chinese premier thanks King

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Monday received a cable from Chinese Prime Minister Li Peng at the conclusion of his two-day visit to Jordan. Mr. Li expressed gratitude and appreciation to King Hussein over the warm welcome and hospitality members of the Chinese delegation received in Jordan. "Although our visit was short, it was fruitful and has left in our minds lovely and deep impressions," Mr. Li said. The Chinese premier added: "We will return to China carrying the Jordanian people's feelings of love towards the Chinese people." In the conclusion of his cable, Mr. Li wished King Hussein continued good health and happiness and the Jordanian people further progress and prosperity.

Senate calls a meeting for the House

AMMAN (Petra) — Upper House of Parliament Speaker Ahmad Al Lawzi decided Monday to call the House for a meeting on Thursday at 10 a.m. Lower House Speaker Abdul Latif Arabiyat also called the Lower House for a meeting on Thursday at 10 a.m. The Lower House committees' chairmen and rapporteurs are scheduled to hold a meeting Tuesday morning while the House's Financial Committee will meet the same day to elect a chairman. On Monday, Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Salim Al Zubi resigned from the Lower House's Investigations Committee because of being appointed minister. Mr. Zubi was the committee's chairman.

Lannert replaces Reid at UNICEF

AMMAN (J.T.) — The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) has appointed Edward Lannert as regional director of the Amman-based Regional Office for the Middle East and North

Africa (MENA). He succeeds Richard Reid, who was appointed director of the Public Affairs Division at UNICEF headquarters in New York. Before his appointment as regional director, Mr. Lannert served as UNICEF representative in Egypt. Mr. Lannert, a PhD holder from the University of Wisconsin, assumed many senior posts in UNICEF. He served as Chief of the Programme Analysis and Evaluation Section and then as deputy director of the Programme Development and Planning Division at UNICEF headquarters in New York. Mr. Lannert joined UNICEF in 1966 as a programme officer in Lusaka, Zambia, where he was responsible for UNICEF programmes of cooperation in both Zambia and Malawi.

AYF assists people in the south

AMMAN (Petra) — Representative of the Arab Youth Forum (AYF) Dr. Abdullah Kanaan Sunday said that the AYF had collected JD 18,436 to help the flood-affected people in the south of Jordan. Dr. Kanaan said that the amount was transferred to a special account, opened at the Housing Bank, to assist the people in the south of Jordan who were heavily affected by torrential rains in March. He said that the AYF would continue its efforts to raise funds and help the people in that area, and called on all citizens and organisations wishing to make contributions to the south to contact the AYF General Secretariat.

Team to supervise repair works in south

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Public Works and Housing Saad Hayel Surour decided Monday to form a technical team to supervise the renovation and repair works in areas and facilities which were damaged by rainstorms and floods last winter season in south Jordan. According to the decision, the team, which will start its work Tuesday, will be based in Tafleh.

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The writing is on the wall

THE WORLD, including some of the Arab states, kept a very pointed silence over the Lebanese army's onslaught against Palestinian fighters in South Lebanon and the compounded misery of the refugees living in squalid camps there. Nobody knows yet how many people were actually killed and how many are in detention after the confrontation, which saw the army assuming control of all Palestinian bases in the area.

Granted that government control of all Lebanese territory was a strategic objective in efforts to smother out all remnants of the civil strife that characterised the country for the past 16 years. Now that the Palestinians have paid their price in the bargain, the issue that confronts the international community, which took pains to repeatedly state its concern over the civil war in Lebanon, is how to further advance the objective of ensuring that the Beirut government exercises complete control over the country and regains its full sovereignty and territorial integrity.

Needless to say, such a goal will be elusive as long as the leaders of the "new world order" pussyfoot around the Israeli presence in South Lebanon. Surprisingly, we have heard little from these quarters of any concern over the possibility that the disarmed Palestinians in the camps in South Lebanon are now left vulnerable to any assault by the Israelis and their client gunmen, the South Lebanon Army (SLA). If anything, what we have heard is a flat refusal by Israel to end its occupation of South Lebanon and a toughening of position by the SLA chieftain, Antoine Lahd.

Indeed, South Lebanon is another test-case for the United Nations, which joined hands to reverse Iraq's occupation of Kuwait, whether it can adopt any practical action to implement its own call, Security Council Resolution 425 which demands a total Israeli withdrawal from South Lebanon. If our experience with the big power (s) controlling the fate of the world is any indication, then it is a safe bet that Israel's occupation of Lebanese territory will continue to be reality for quite some time to come.

But, let the world not forget, it will be the sole responsibility of the international community at large if another massacre of Palestinians takes place in South Lebanon. And this time around, it will not be any easier for anyone to forget that the writing was on the wall.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

Al Ra'i Arabic daily Monday criticised the new Arab League secretary general for "continuing to behave" as foreign minister of Egypt rather than as the Arab League's chief whose duty is to serve all Arab countries and not only Egypt's interests. The paper said that Esmat Abdul Meguid has not yet said a single word in defence of the Iraqi people in the face of continued economic sanctions and is acting as if he is still Egyptian foreign minister and not secretary general of the Arab League elected to offer services to all Arab countries on equal footing. "We are pained to see the Iraqi civilian population facing shortages of food and medicine, and the non-Kuwaiti Arabs facing repression in Kuwait at a time when most of the Arab capitals remain tight lipped and the Arab League supporting those Arab states which chose to side with the U.S.-led alliance against Iraq," said the paper. Abdul Meguid, who was chosen for the post of Arab League chief, is still behaving as foreign minister of a country which led the anti-Iraqi group of Arab countries, the paper continued. "We still hope that the Arab League chief will issue a very modest condemnation of the Western, racist and hostile attitude against Iraq and a call for the implementation of the international legitimacy on equal footing in all issues," the paper said. "We will wait to see if the Arab League secretary general is truly Arab, serving all Arab countries and if he is really fit to assume that status," the paper concluded.

Al Dstour daily lauded the government of Prime Minister Taher Masri for keeping its word and abolishing martial law. "Abolishing the martial law at this stage is considered a critical and very significant step on the way towards complementing structure of democracy in Jordan," said the paper. "The cancellation of the martial law which has been in existence since the 1967 war, came on the eve of the opening of the extraordinary session of the Lower House of Parliament thus giving further momentum for the democratisation process and enhancing hope that the country is heading for the establishment of the state of institutions," the paper noted. "Furthermore, the cancellation of the martial law manifests Jordan's true commitment to the defence of human rights and displays the government's genuine desire to respond to further public demands," it continued. "We note here that martial law rules will remain valid with regard to the economic security committee decisions, yet this does not mar the government decisions, especially at this stage as these rules merely concern financial and economic matters," said the paper. The paper congratulated the Jordanian people on the end of the martial law and the blossoming of democracy in a country set amidst a region that lacks all forms and meanings of democratic rule.

Crisis facing Palestinians: Creeping annexation and economic pressure

By Phyllis Bennis

THREE months after the Gulf war, a double crisis looms over occupied Palestine. Just as Washington's devastation of Iraq laid the basis for a newly unchallenged U.S. domination of the Middle East as a whole, so the dual demons of escalating settlement-building and tightening economic pressure threaten to derail the hard won gains of the intifada.

It has been little more than a year since my last visit, and the difference is almost palpable. The pressure of massive Soviet and significant Ethiopian Jewish emigration, along with mounting U.S. aid (despite gentle acknowledgements that the settlements are an "obstacle to peace"), have led to a vast construction boom throughout occupied Palestine. Enormous cranes dot every hilltop; the tiny mobile-home "settlements" ostentatiously established on the occasion of each visit of Secretary of State James Baker, are rapidly being transformed into permanent settlements. Despite the economic and absorption problems facing Tel Aviv, there is a clear sense of Israeli expansionism on the offensive.

The small Shofat refugee camp, inside the newly-expanded city limits of Jerusalem, provides a stark example of this creeping annexation. Once outside of the city

itself, bounded by rock-strewn hills populated by herds of sheep and goats, it is now virtually encircled by new Jewish settlements, each perched on top of the surrounding hills. It is almost cut off now from the rest of the Palestinian West Bank.

One camp resident described how the land seizures are carried out. Provocations designed to encourage Palestinian youth to stone military patrols, or in some instances "sting" operations in which settlers or soldiers themselves stone or even shoot at Israeli Egged buses, are staged. In response, military authorities place the entire area under curfew or siege. With the Palestinian population thus restricted to their homes, military camps and rudimentary pre-fab settlements are constructed, while settler lawyers obtain immediate court orders for land seizures based on "security" needs.

According to a Shofat Camp activist, Jerusalem Mayor Teddy Kollek, with government support, has vastly expanded the borders of the city itself. A Palestinian attempting to obtain a building permit will pay more than \$30,000 before even beginning to build a house. Military orders forbid Palestinians from building within 70 metres of any road, creating enormous logistical challenges for construction

work. Jewish Jerusalem need no permit.

It is not only in the cities that the settlement squeeze is running at full speed. In the northern West Bank, on the way to Nablus, is the tiny village of Marda'a. For generations Marda'a was a farming and herding village, with many families raising olive trees and grazing their sheep and goats on the hills behind the village. After the occupation, all of that changed. By the late 1970s, the settlement that was to become the largest settlement on the West Bank, was built on the far side of the hills behind Marda'a. It was called Ariel.

"The settlement boom exacerbates the relentless economic pressure of what appears to be the latest weapon in Israel's anti-intifada arsenal."

Now Ariel is the size of a good-sized town, with tens of thousands of residents. And the borders of the settlement have grown over the hills and down the other side, towards the village. The hillside themselves, already closed to Marda'a's shepherds, are now filled with construction cranes. Already the water level has dropped, forcing villagers to navigate the steep and slippery

stone steps down to a subterranean well maybe 50 metres beneath the earth.

All over Palestine, villages like Marda'a are threatened with this creeping annexation.

The settlement boom exacerbates the relentless economic pressure of what appears to be the latest weapon in Israel's anti-intifada arsenal.

In the West Bank, economic pressure is building. Jobs are becoming scarce, and Palestinians returning from the Gulf are penniless and unemployed. Many Palestinian institutions have lost crucial funding from Gulf donors. Jerusalem's Al-Makassad Hospital, for exam-

while Jews pay nothing on income up to NIS 1,650 (about \$480).

But it is in Gaza that the most severe effect of the economic assault can be seen. Home to the poorest of Palestine, the post-Gulf war Gaza Strip now faces unemployment of over 60 per cent. U.N. estimates indicate less than 30,000 Gazans now find work inside Israel; before the Gulf crisis began, about 110,000 worked there.

Since most of that work was low-paid, semi-clandestine day labour anyway, few of those employed were able to save much for an even bleaker future. With more Gazans than ever before qualifying for under-supplied emergency food assistance from the U.N. Relief and Works Agency for Palestinian Refugees (UNRWA) and the Young Men Christian Association (YMCA), it is hard to figure out how people are feeding their families at all. It appears that Gaza residents are still relying on their dwindling savings, and many women are selling their wedding gold. In six months, or perhaps a year, when the meagre savings have gone and there is no more gold to sell, the hunger and social tensions in Gaza are likely to explode.

The June 18 statement of U.S. Ambassador William Brown that he was impressed

by what he claimed was "evidence of a significant policy of economic development," flies in the face of Gaza's stark realities. Even a few brief days in the dusty, unpaved streets of Gaza City, the feild, sewer-laced alleys of Jabaliya Camp, and the tension-racked Rafah district where soldiers clash with stone-throwing children on a daily basis, show the reality of Gaza's near-desperation.

The Gulf war and its aftermath have left the Palestinians more isolated than ever. The question of how the intifada, approaching its fourth anniversary, can best be recast to meet the new challenges of a completely new historical period, is on the agenda of Palestinians across the length and breadth of the occupied territories. The critical question for now, however, remains how Palestine will survive the onslaught of land and water confiscation, settlement building and as increasing Israeli effort towards "economic transfer," forcing Palestinians to leave their homes by making it impossible for them to survive in their own country.

The writer is a U.N.-based radio journalist and author of From Stones to Statehood: The Palestinian Uprising. She just returned from three weeks in the West Bank and Gaza. She contributed this article to the Jordan Times.

Maghrebi unity — a success story

By Tom Porteous

IN MAY the Belgian chargé d'affaires in Libya was summoned to a meeting with Mohammed Al Razzuq Rajab, the Libyan minister responsible for the affairs of the Arab Maghreb Union (AMU). Mr. Rajab conveyed to the Belgian diplomat the "concern of Muammar Qadhafi, the acting president of the AMU," at the "violent treatment inflicted on Maghrebi immigrants by the Belgian police" during recent racial disturbances in Brussels. The beatings and harassment meted out to "the sons of the Maghreb resident in Europe" constituted an act of "racial persecution and segregation which could damage future relations with the countries of the Maghreb," the Belgian was told.

Some may find that there is something odd in all this. What has Qadhafi got to do with the roughing up of Moroccan immigrants by Belgian police in Brussels? Why should such an event impinge on the relations between five North African states and 12 European ones? And what is the AMU anyway?

The key question is this last and the answer is that since the Gulf war both the people and the governments of the Maghreb are beginning to breathe real life into the Arab Maghreb Union, which was founded in 1989 in Marrakesh amidst a good deal of scepticism. Two years later and hardly a day passes without the announcement in the Maghrebi press of another meeting of this, that or the other council or committee of the Union and the adoption of new recommendations. The states of the

Maghreb have, it seems, seen the utility of a regional structure which Maghrebi economists and political scientists have been discussing for years.

What the Maghreb is looking for in the aftermath of the Gulf war is weight: economic weight to hold its own in a "free market" world economy which Maghrebis feel is designed to their disadvantage, and to stand up to the closed European market of 1992; political weight to face U.S. regional hegemony and to have a voice in the divided world of inter-Arab politics; diplomatic weight in the growing cacophony of international diplomacy; cultural weight to withstand the aggressive onslaught of Western media; and moral weight to protect the rights of Maghrebi emigrants in Europe and elsewhere.

The impact of the Gulf war

The Gulf war has shaken the Maghreb to its core. Apart from its economic impact, the war aroused deep suspicion of Western motives in the Arab World. It drew attention to the rapid deterioration of the economic terms of exchange between Europe and the Maghreb. It was seen as proof that the West is prepared (and would be prepared again) to use its overwhelming military superiority to destroy any serious challenge to its dominant role and is prepared to prop up its clients — however corrupt and unpleasant — at any cost.

It also put the governments of the Maghreb under great pressure for political and economic reforms from populations who saw in Iraq's treatment by the West symbols of their own oppression from corruption, the threat of physical violence against dissent and social injustice.

Above all, the common reaction to the war among most Maghrebis underlined a sense of shared identity (Arab and Islamic), of common problems, aspirations and threats which could all be better dealt with in unison than alone.

Certainly there is still much work to do and many hurdles to be overcome before the idea can be transformed into an effective reality. Officially, inter-Maghreb trade only accounts for a paltry three per cent of the total. Algerian newspapers are not on sale in Morocco despite great Moroccan interest in what they have to say. (During the war many Moroccans listened to Algerian radio). Travel within the Maghreb, though not subject to visa restrictions, is not as easy as it might be. And political differences still make it hard for the member states of the AMU to agree on many issues.

But it is still early days and progress has already been made. In spite of the fact that the five member states of the Union all took different positions at the start of the Gulf crisis, by the start of the war they had worked out a common attitude — largely because the governments all found that their people were united against the Western intervention in the Middle East. Now the Maghreb states are finding the Union a useful way of approaching the EC ahead of the trade restrictions which the Europeans will impose after 1992.

In inter-Maghreb politics, the AMU has significantly helped in reducing tension between Algeria and Morocco over the Western Sahara and Polisario. Some even hope that by activating the AMU on the issue, Morocco may be able to avoid the proposed intervention of the U.N. in the disputed territory. In addition

there are numerous proposals for inter-Maghreb cooperation ranging from the creation of a Maghrebi TV station to coordinated agricultural policy. Compared with some earlier attempts at inter-Arab union, the Arab Maghreb Union appears to be born not of impulsive showmanship and wishful thinking but of a reasonably detailed recognition of mutual advantage and strong popular will.

Looking to Algeria

In the long run, it is generally recognised that it is only with the development of democracy in the Maghreb that the AMU can function permanently and effectively, otherwise it will always be subject to the instability which the pursuit of narrow interests imposes. So the democratic experiment in Algeria, and that country's outspoken media, are the objects of keen interest throughout the Maghreb.

The Algerian elections, on which was seen to hang the future of much in the region, will also be the first major challenge for the Union if they take place. As well as the popular excitement the election campaign in Algeria aroused in the Maghreb, there had been a good deal of apprehension, particularly in official circles in Morocco and Tunisia, at the possibility of a victory for the Islamic right, which would put Algeria's relations with its neighbours severely to the test and could bring the whole structure of the Arab Maghreb Union tumbling down. Unless, of course, victorious fundamentalists in Algeria eventually managed to export their revolution to the rest of the region and the Arab Maghreb Union becomes the United Islamic Republic of the Maghreb — but that is another story — Middle East International, London.

Conflict expected between U.S., Israel over housing guarantees

By Herb Keison
The Jerusalem Post

THE U.S. will likely give Israel the controversial \$10 billion in loan guarantees for immigrants absorption, but only after a conflict that will strain an already tense relationship, according to a leading expert on U.S.-Israel relations.

Steven Spiegel, a political science professor at the University of California in Los Angeles, said the Bush administration has fallen into a trap of its own making by dropping hints that the guarantees may be linked to a halt in settlement activity.

"If they don't provide the guarantees, then Israel is given a carte blanche to do whatever it wants on the West Bank," Mr. Spiegel said July 3 at a forum sponsored by the Jerusalem Centre for Public Affairs. "So the U.S. needs to resurrect its own leverage." It is in this light that Mr. Spiegel, author of a book on Israel-U.S. relations entitled *The Other Arab-Israeli Conflict*, interpreted President Bush's denial July 1 that he intends to link the guarantees to the settlements.

Mr. Spiegel said the conflict over the loan guarantees could be eased somewhat by an Israeli moratorium on settlement activity, or by gestures such as the "muzzling" of Housing Minister Ariel Sharon, a vocal proponent of increased settlement activity.

Mr. Spiegel said the issue has placed the Bush administration in a difficult bind. While seeing settlement activity as proof Israel is not interested in peace negotiations, it is galling to be asked to guarantee loans for \$10 billion, he said. "But America can't work for 25 years to free Soviet Jews only to have them starve in Israel. And the gall is made worse by Israel

daring the U.S. not to give the guarantees."

In addition to annoying the administration, increased settlement activity is a thorn in the side of many American Jews raising millions of dollars for Soviet immigration, sometimes sacrificing support for their own institutions in the process. Some of these leaders, Mr. Spiegel said, are furious that the settlements could jeopardise the whole absorption programme.

The situation is made worse, Mr. Spiegel said, by a poor working relationship between the president and Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir. "Shamir and Bush are a mismatch," Mr. Spiegel said. "Bush likes to be buddies with presidents and prime ministers. Shamir is just not Bush's type."

The Bush administration, Mr. Spiegel said, is characterised by a pragmatism — as opposed to visionary — approach to problems.

Mr. Spiegel said the current tension is also the result of two societies headed in different directions. He said that despite a battlefield victory in the Gulf War, Americans "lack confidence" in an era that will see the U.S. in economic competition with Europe and Japan. "The Cold War drained both the U.S. and the USSR, and Americans are increasingly debating whether they are in decline," he said.

By contrast, the end of the Cold War has enhanced Israel's position in Eastern Europe, and provided it with talented new immigrants. In addition, the Gulf War has lessened the threat from Iraq. As a result, he said, "The Israelis still believe in themselves, the Americans do not. These tensions between the two societies have an impact on the relationship."

Gorbachev at the G7 summit — a reluctantly invited guest

By Stephen Jukes
Reuters

LONDON — When the West's most powerful leaders gather in London for this year's annual summit, they may be distracted by the sound of a reluctantly invited guest clamouring for a place at the high table.

But the West has little intention of welcoming Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev with open arms into the exclusive capitalist club of the Group of Seven nations — yet.

Government officials preparing the talks are resigned to the fact that aid to the Soviet Union will dominate the gathering and may overshadow discussions on world trade and how to limit arms sales after the Gulf war.

"It is going to be a Gorbachev summit whether we like it or not," said one Western official working on the agenda.

Leaders of the seven nations — the United States, Japan, Germany, France, Britain, Italy and

Canada — are used to being upstaged by Mr. Gorbachev.

In 1989, as Francois Mitterrand hosted the annual talks in Paris, the Soviet president sent a surprise letter announcing his desire to be part of a new world economic order.

One year later, in Houston, Texas, Mr. Gorbachev struck a very different tone in a letter to President George Bush, stating the need to back up domestic reforms with "financial and economic support from abroad."

This year, as Prime Minister John Major prepares to host the summit in London, assistance for the Soviet Union will top the agenda and, after much soul-searching in Western capitals, Mr. Gorbachev has been invited to state his case in person.

The onus is on the Soviet leader to convince the West that he is serious about economic and political reform and will make a clean break with central planning in favour of free markets.

"Six years of perestroika and

piecemeal reforms have produced nothing but decline," said Graham Allison, Harvard professor and co-author of the Grand Bargain plan under which the West would lend billions of dollars in return for reform.

"The Soviets have sought to repair holes in the hull of the boat but the boat is rotten... they must choose not to repair the rotting hull but jump ship."

France, Germany and Italy may be more receptive than other nations, but expectations have already been played down. Massive cash aid is being ruled out in favour of freer trade links and technical help through special Soviet membership of the International Monetary Fund and World Bank.

The timetable for the London talks has also been carefully structured to avoid the impression that Mr. Gorbachev is now a fully-fledged member of the rich nations' club or a new world economic order to be managed by a "group of eight."

Some officials are privately annoyed that Mr. Gorbachev, in a series of obvious hints that he would welcome an invitation, has effectively gate-crashed the party, making it almost impossible for Mr. Major to say "no".

As if to keep Mr. Gorbachev at arm's length, the seven will hold their own talks for 2½ days, from July 15 to 17, before sitting down for an afternoon session with him.

He will not take part in the seven's round-table discussion of world economic policy nor is he on the guest list for the ceremonial banquet to be given for the leaders by Queen Elizabeth.

The seven have also insisted on issuing their communiqué before seeing Mr. Gorbachev. And top politicians have stressed that other causes — particularly aid for East European countries — will not be forgotten.

The one question that nobody seems to be able to answer is whether Mr. Gorbachev can deliver the reforms he is promising.

LETTERS

Halt spiritual suicide

To the Editor

AS an American reading the Jordan Times of Saturday, July 6, I must say I was sickened by the statement quoted there from President Bush's Independence Day speech, "If we didn't know it before Desert Storm, we know it now: nothing can stop us."

Stop us from what? From insisting upon sanctions on Iraq that cause malnutrition, sickness, death, unemployment and destruction of a national economy?

Stop us from what? From developing an ethos where to be American is to be salted with the arrogance of empire?

Many of us Americans feel we must be stopped from committing spiritual suicide. We sense a responsibility to tear off the shroud of this Gulf victory so that we can see again the horizons that enabled us to shape the United States of America.

To be, as President Bush said, "a land respected and revered by the rest of the world," we must move quickly to restore to the Iraqi people what it takes to get on with their lives.

Dr. Eileen Storey
Amman

Cabinet gets taste of Parliament

(Continued from page 1)

point of contention was the government's "disregard" of the House's will and independence by excluding the two policies on agriculture and water. They also maintained that the use of Section 1 of Article 82 of the Constitution to open the extraordinary session instead of Section 2 is "in contravention of the Constitution."

"Deputy Hussein Mjalli, an Arab nationalist lawyer, said that it was clear from the stipulations of the Constitution that only the House can provide a list of issues to be discussed in the extraordinary session."

"This government began its mandate by aggression on the Constitution. What they did is a constitutional violation," contended Mr. Mjalli, who, other deputies claim, is aggravated by the inclusion of his colleagues' ideologies in the government.

"It is obvious that the government excluded the points which allow the legislative authority to monitor the work of the executive authority. The government works with a martial court mentality while it claims it lifted martial laws," said Hamman Said, a Muslim Brotherhood deputy recognised as a radical even among the ranks of the movement.

But a cabinet minister, who is also a deputy, charged that Mr. Mjalli had offered the legal reference on the same issue when former Prime Minister Mndar Badran was calling for an extraordinary session and that this legal advice at that time contradicted with what he said Monday.

"We sought legal advice on this same point last year and at that time Mr. Mjalli said: 'Calling an extraordinary session is of the jurisdiction of the House and the King. The agenda of the meeting is of the jurisdiction of the King,'" said the minister, who preferred anonymity.

"Constitutionally the govern-

ment is correct in its translation," a former minister in Mr. Badran's government told the Jordan Times. "But," he added, "at that time we contacted the different blocs at the House to discuss the items with them and reached agreement before the Royal Decree was issued."

But Mr. Masri's government, in counter argument, says that since it is presenting its government policy for discussion at the House without being required to constitutionally, "the House has an advantage in that it can discuss all our policies and not only agriculture and water."

Another cabinet minister, speaking on condition of anonymity, said that it was clear that the whole constitutional point was utilised by the opposition as show of "muscle-flexing" before the confidence session.

Observers and analysts agree. But they also add that Mr. Masri's government is a "minority government" and that it cannot expect to be given free reign by the opposition.

"This is how democracy works. The opposition cannot work on ways to comfort in government or stops being an opposition," one analyst and former minister said.

"It is a game that has to be played."

But observers of the House's session agreed that Mr. Masri's government "got a very early message." And some added that they were "caught unprepared."

The Muslim Brotherhood bloc, which watched the debate brewing among the government and its supporters on the one hand and independents on the other, interjected only when it was alluded that the opposition was questioning the King's will as translated in the decree.

"There is some disorder here. And I see it as the responsibility of the government. The King does not reject the will of the House but the government does."

There is no clash between the wish of the House and the will of the King. What the House is doing is registering a violation for the government," Ahmad Qataish Al Azaideh, spokesman for the Brotherhood bloc, told the House after the debate had escalated.

Observers and deputies present at the House's session said that Mr. Azaideh's statement gave a clear indication of where the Brotherhood was heading in the confidence vote.

Their message was very clear: They will vote against the government," said one observer. Yet some other analysts contest this analysis and say that the door for negotiations with the movement is still open and an agreement could be reached with them to abstain from voting rather than giving a negative vote.

The debate over the constitutional point ended precariously after the mood at the House became charged and speaker Abdul Latif Arabiyat found himself faced with a 33-33 vote on ending the discussion. He voted in favour of ending the discussion and the meeting was ended quickly after that.

The next meeting of the House was scheduled for Thursday and, although it has not been officially announced yet, it is expected that Mr. Masri's government will present its policy statement then.

In the final analysis, observers say, the reception that Mr. Masri and his cabinet received at the hands of the 80-man House Sunday was not in line with historical announcement of lifting the stipulations of martial law that same day.

"The government came into the House after they were able to legalise the administrative moves made by the Badran government to lift martial law and they were received ungratefully by the House that has demanded this move for the past two years," commented a former minister.

Germans begin paying for reunification

By Marc Fisher

BONN — The first hefty payment on Germany's colossal unification bill came due last week and the whole country was groaning from sticker shock.

Income taxes jumped 7.5 per cent and gasoline prices shot up July, by a wallet-squeezing average of 55 cents a gallon, pushing the average German's tax burden to nearly 45 per cent of annual income.

And the worst is yet to come. A year after East Germany traded in its worthless Communist currency for solid, powerful German marks, another 450,000 eastern Germans joined the jobless ranks last week.

The end of a government programme that had kept those people on industrial payrolls even though they did not have to show up for work means that nearly 3.5 million of eastern Germany's 8.5 million workers are now unemployed.

Eastern Germans now can look back on a year of fulfilled dreams — freedom to travel, the chance to buy Western goods and to adopt Western ways — and dashed hopes — the reality of a collapsed economy, the loss of the communist system of cradle-to-grave security.

The anniversary of economic unification is a time for western Germans to realise that the thrill of unification, now a subject of nostalgic remembrances, has given way to the certainty of steadily climbing taxes, a persistent psychological divide between the two Germans and the threat of social unrest in the troubled east.

What lies ahead, Chancellor Helmut Kohl said July 1 is "harder work" and even more sacrifice.

Kohl defended his decision to push the two countries together economically more than three months before East Germany ceased to exist last October. He conceded that events have "taken a different course than I had expected," a reference to the failure of Western investors to pump money into the east in the speedy and massive fashion that Kohl had predicted.

But the chancellor said that giving East Germans Western money last July was the only way to stop people from moving across the freshly opened Berlin Wall in such numbers that the eastern part of the country could have lost the bulk of its brains and initiative. "We acted at exactly the right time," Kohl said.

Opposition Social Democratic leader Oskar Lafontaine, whom

Kohl easily defeated in his reelection bid last fall, said the millions of east German jobs lost as a result of the collapse of Communist-era industries are testament to the fallacy of Kohl's policy. The opposition wanted a more gradual transformation of the economy.

Whatever the merits of Kohl's decision, eastern Germany's shock transition to the west German market system, even with heavy government support, has been anything but easy. The unexpected hardship of the east German make-over has shown just how difficult a road eastern Europe and the Soviet Union face in the coming decade as they try to transform their economies without the benefit of a deep-pocketed neighbour committed to making a new system work.

In addition to widespread unemployment, eastern Germany remains plagued by other serious problems: There are more than a million conflicting property claims by people who lost homes and businesses to the Communists and the Nazis before them; local courts, police and governments remain desperate for Western expertise and frustrated by the presence of old Communist bosses; and with the collapse of industry, eastern German production is down 70 per cent since the start of 1990.

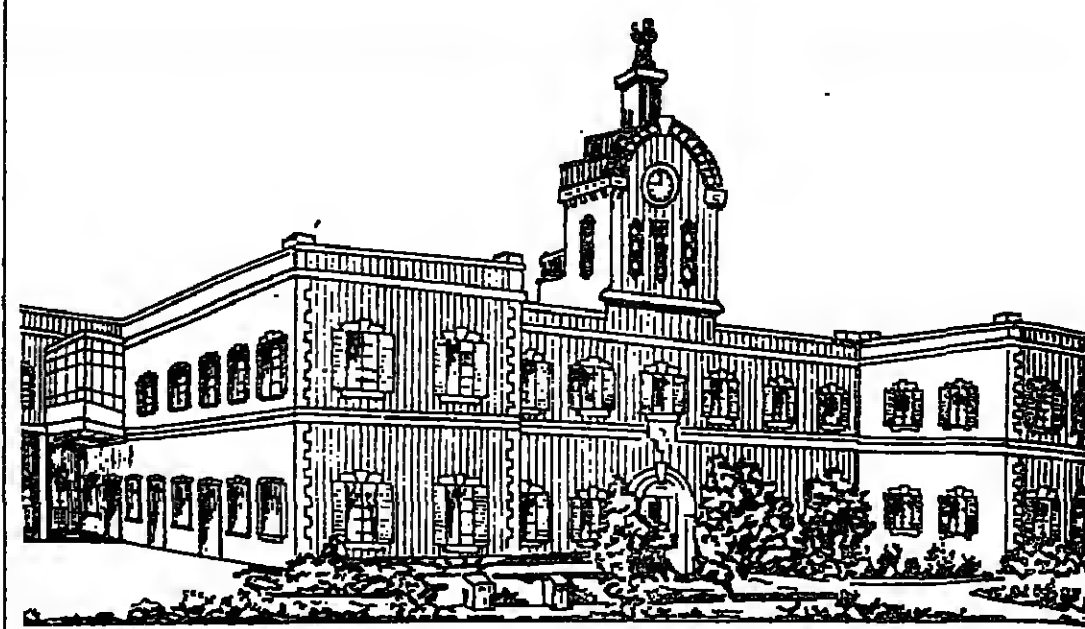
The Bonn government is spending \$55 billion to rebuild the east this year, one quarter of its total budget. Estimates of the costs in the next few years vary widely, but all agree that the numbers are the kind normally associated only with the defence budgets of world superpowers.

Bonn's policy of "creative destruction" in the east — getting rid of the Communist system to clear the way for Western investment — has produced far more destruction than creation thus far.

Private investment in the east has totaled only about \$14 billion this year as companies continue to wait for conditions — for example, phone, road, sewer and water connections — to improve.

Eastern Germans themselves, however, are beginning to show signs of optimism. A majority told a recent poll that they are once again saving money.

The forest of scaffolding in many eastern towns is proof that people are pumping money into property that is finally theirs. More than 300,000 companies have been founded in the east, and applications for bank loans are piling up faster than ever — Washington Post.



Bethlehem University: Despite the odds classes go on

By Debbie Lovatt
Special to the Jordan Times

BETHLEHEM — Students at Bethlehem University are every lecturer's dream. They are willing and keen to study and make up for lost classes by coming onto campus over the weekends. After three years of broken study, some students are only just completing their first year due to the university having been closed for much of the same period in the life of the Palestinian intifada.

The occupying Israeli forces compelled this university — along with other universities and educational institutions in the occupied territories — to close for much of the time because of the uprising.

Schools for younger children were set up by teachers and students in different neighbourhoods to ensure youngsters did not miss out entirely on education when schools were not permitted to open.

When the university was open students were able to come in and loan the necessary books for their particular course from the library to enable them to study at home or at other centres outside the campus.

A group of students sitting on a bench in the shade of a tree waiting for an English lecture agreed with their spokesperson who said that "despite the university having been closed for much of the time, concentrating on studying was not difficult during the Gulf war because we had all become used to studying in the shadow of the intifada."

The biggest complaint amongst this group about the Gulf war earlier this year was that "the Israelis cut the telephone lines. They didn't want us or anyone else to know what was happening anywhere." National but not international lines have since been restored.

The students were joking that there are fewer people in their classes than when they started their degree courses. "Some people stopped studying," said an English literature student. "Some got jobs, some got married and some are in prison."

One female student, who married recently is determined

to continue her studies. She finds it hard to concentrate on her studies as her husband has just been imprisoned by the Israelis. But "I have to study. We have to think of the future and when the situation improves. I have more job opportunities if I have a degree," she said.

This student who, like the others, declined to give even her first name, said her husband, to whom she has been married for only a few months, was "taken by soldiers with a large number of other students. He and someone else were the only two to be transferred to prison in Hebron. The others were allowed home."

This is not the first time her husband has been arrested. "I think I am kind of a curse," she said. "Because in the five years I have known him he has been in prison three times — twice they (the Israelis) put him in Ansar III in the Naqab desert."

No one is allowed to visit prisoners except their lawyers. "But," said the young wife, "the charge is a secret even to the lawyers. The Israelis can detain people for six months or a year without a charge."

It is difficult for someone in jail to inform a lawyer of his situation and it is not easy for lawyers to visit prisoners. If the Red Cross is informed, a representative is sometimes allowed to visit. Palestinian lawyers have to obtain special permission from the Israeli authorities in order to visit clients behind bars.

One student who is also married and should live in Hebron with her husband is living with her family in Bethlehem out of convenience.

"Until I finish this year's exams I will live here in Bethlehem instead of with my husband in Hebron," she said. "Because of the road blocks and curfews, it is easier to stay here rather than keep missing lectures because the Israeli army won't let you travel to a town even if it's only 20 minutes away, for whatever reason."

Bethlehem University was established in 1973 largely in response to persistent demands by the local community. Pre-

viously, young people from the Bethlehem area who wanted to obtain a university education had to move away from home to another regional university or study abroad.

Over 35 per cent of the staff are monks and nuns. Director of public relations, Dr. Musa Darwish, said: "We have such a high proportion of brothers and sisters on our staff because they traditionally keep out of politics and all staff except those who have given their lives to the church must sign a military order pledging they will not help the PLO. One teacher was expelled after 48 hours for refusing to sign."

Two American clergymen have been working throughout the intifada. They did off-campus teaching and met anywhere they could with the students. Initially they were restricted to five people only, then nine, then eventually up to 15. According to Dr. Darwish, these brothers "had an unofficial agreement with the (Israeli) interior ministry that they could continue their off-campus teaching as long as they did not rock the boat."

Dr. Darwish believes off-campus teaching has had an "enriching effect on the students in that they have had to go out and find things out for themselves and be more resourceful. Also it has led to a more casual and easy association with the staff."

The general picture of education is not altogether rosy. Schooling has been practically impossible for many children in the occupied territories. As a result teachers fear a rise in illiteracy because of schools having been closed for well over half of the intifada period, "three-and-a-half years."

One teacher from a village between Jerusalem and Bethlehem said: "It is difficult to expect any progress when a school is open once in two weeks and then for another two days. Every time a school reopens, teachers have to go back to where they started and do it all over again. Then children get out of the habit of going to school and concentration and discipline become a real problem for them."

Tanks leave Algiers

(Continued from page 1)

Fifteen minutes earlier, Mr. Said had forecast he might be arrested. He said he had temporarily taken the place of Mr. Madani, who faces charges, along with his deputy Mr. Belhadj, of leading an "armed" conspiracy against state security.

Sitting alone on the stage of the shabby conference room, Mr. Said told journalists and militants: "It is probable they will come to arrest me, to put me in prison, if I am not the force that

leads to the betrayal of the FIS. "But I refuse. I am going to lead the FIS, which has been welcomed by the people, or I am going to prison."

But he also called for dialogue with the government, insisting the FIS did not espouse violence and said that as leader he would try to avoid the emergence of extremism from militants on the fringe.

The FIS emerged at local elections last year as the main opposition to the National Liberation

Froot, the party which had ruled since independence in 1962.

But ahead of general elections due last month, the FIS called a strike to press for changes to electoral laws which it judged unfair.

Faced with larger and larger street demonstrations, President Chadli Benjedid imposed a state of siege on June 5, postponed the elections and appointed a new prime minister, Sid Ahmed Ghazali.

Mr. Ghazali presents his new government's programme for continued democratic and economic reform to parliament last Thursday. It is due to vote on the programme later on Monday.

Mr. Arens also pointed to Syrian "aggression" calling "Syria's annexation of Lebanon no different than Iraq's annexation of Kuwait," a defence ministry statement said.

Israel is opposed to an international peace conference, a key Arab condition for talks.

Israel also adamantly rejects any U.N. role in peace talks because it says the world body is biased against it.

Mr. Brunner told reporters Monday that the world body was committed to implementing resolutions that call for Israel to make a land-for-peace settlement with the Arabs.

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Iraq provides list to U.N.

(Continued from page 1)

ceasefire.

In Baghdad, team leader Demetrios Perleios of Greece described the Iraqis as cooperative but refused to give details of their inspection or their plans.

Iraqi President Saddam Hussein, in a letter to Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar Friday said Iraq would provide "a list of the items about which (the U.N.) sought information" by Sunday or Monday.

He promised that "prompt and unimpeded access will be ensured to the location and items designated for inspection... in addition to guaranteeing the security and safety of members of the inspection teams."

Iraq two weeks ago blocked a team of U.N. nuclear specialists three times. In one incident June 28, Iraqi soldiers allegedly fired over the heads of the inspectors wanting to search a 60-truck convoy they believed had carried oil calorators, World War II-era devices used to enrich uranium.

The United States has issued veiled threats of military action if Iraq continued to hide equipment suspected of being able to enrich uranium.

But Soviet Ambassador Yuri Vorontsov told reporters that no country "within the walls of the United Nations," including the United States, had suggested a military solution.

Iraqi newspapers accused the United States Monday of launching a propaganda campaign against Baghdad to prepare the world for another war.

The United States wants from this fiasco to prepare the international atmosphere and obtain a justification for launching a new aggression on Iraq," the Defence Ministry newspaper Al Qadisiyah said in an editorial.

It said the United States also aimed to set the stage for a continuation of U.N. sanctions against Iraq and to undermine the Iraqi people's loyalty to President Saddam.

The United States, it said, was disappointed it had failed to impose its will on Iraq through Kurdish and Shiite-Muslim unrest in March.

The ruling Baath Party news-

paper Al Thawra said the U.S. threat to use force was part of a "fabricated campaign."

"The only thing left for the U.S. administration to hide behind when it throws accusations at Iraq or interferes in its internal affairs is to sow doubts over its pledges to implement the U.N. Security Council resolutions," it added.

New mission

U.N. inspectors will go to Iraq soon to make sure it is not hiding any ballistic missiles at unspecified sites, a U.N. officer said in Bahrain.

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U.N. envoy due here today

(Continued from page 1)

He alleged that Syria's leaders "are not ready to recognise Israel or pronounce the word 'peace,'" a communiqué from Mr. Shamir's office said.

Defence Minister Moshe Arens told Mr. Brunner the major stumbling block to peace in the Middle East was the Arab refusal to revoke their state of war against Israel and to negotiate directly with the Jewish state.

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Prost dismisses Drivers' Championship challenge

MAGNY-COURS, France (R) — Alain Prost has dismissed all thoughts of a challenge for the Formula One Drivers' Championship despite the hugely-promising performance of the new Ferrari in Sunday's French Grand Prix.

"The car has great potential and it is getting better all the time," the Frenchman said after driving the Ferrari 643 into second place behind Briton Nigel Mansell's Williams.

Prost was excited by the car's performance in its first race, but said championship leader Ayrton Senna of Brazil was too far ahead after winning the first four races of the season.

"It is fantastic to be back in a position to challenge to win races. But I think 30 points is too many to make up so I shall not be thinking about the championship," he said.

"We just want to try to keep improving and to challenge again at Silverstone next weekend. Then, if we can put some results together, the whole picture might change again."

Senna leads the championship after seven rounds with 43 points, followed by Mansell (23), Italian Riccardo Patrese (22) and Prost (17).

Prost's delight in the performance of his V12-powered Ferrari was plain to all at the new Magny-Cours track after the race in which he had led for most of the 72-laps.

But in the end, struggling with a slight gearbox problem and reduced power from his engine, he was unable to resist Mansell's challenge and the Briton was able to storm through to the 17th victory of his career.

"Our new car is performing very well," said Prost. "It is a tribute to the team how well it went in this race so soon after being built. But I don't think we are quite up to the Williams standards yet."

"We hope we can keep on making progress and then we can give them a strong challenge at Silverstone."

Mansell, whose win made him

the most successful English Grand Prix driver — overhauling Stirling Moss's 30-year-old record of 16 wins — was in expansive mood.

"I expect both Ayrton (Senna) and Alain (Prost) will make a great effort next weekend and it will be very tough. But we have proved what we can do now. It was a fantastic race."

"I am not going to complain about the car at all, but towards the end I had braking problems. The pedal felt very soft and it was a long way down."

"But the engine worked beautifully and the gearbox was good too. At the end of the day it was an extremely good combination."

Mansell's victory meant a celebration for the Williams' team's French engine suppliers Renault. It was their first win at the French Grand Prix since 1983 and delighted the 92,000 crowd at the new circuit.

But there were no celebrations for Senna or his McLaren team.



The Al Jeel goalkeeper saves a high ball during the Premier League match against Al Wahdat Friday (Photo by Youssef Al Allan)

Al Hussein drops valuable point in 2-2 draw against Al Arabi

By Ahmad Ismail
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Al Hussein, the Premier League's runner up, dropped a valuable point when they held Al Arabi to a 2-2 draw in the second stage of the Jordanian Soccer Premier League Championship.

Al Arabi went straight into the attack from the start needing a win after being defeated 1-0 by Al Ramtha in the first stage of the competition.

A goal mouth scramble from a cross by Al Arabi's Munir Garabeh led to the opening goal for the runner up team in the second minute as Hisham Anbar put the ball in. In the second half, Al Hussein got another shock when Hisham Anbar scored again from a fast counter to make it 2-0.

But Al Arabi's domination was short lived when Faiz Yousif scored the first goal for Al Hussein in the 53rd minute. The relentless pressure led Al Hussein to score the equaliser by their top

scorer Arif Hussein in the 61st minute.

In this match, Al Arabi's attacker Hisham Anbar was sent off and six other players from both sides were booked by referee Omar Bashtawi for over-aggressive plays.

Al Faisali, the title holders, beat Al Karmal, who were overpowered 6-1 by Al Hussein in the first stage.

The new-style Al Karmal side rarely troubled their rivals, although they needed the controversial penalty that was denied to them by the referee Isbaq Abu Ali.

Al Ramtha continued their winning run by beating the main contenders Al Jazireh 1-0. Salim Dhyabat scored Al Ramtha's winning goal in the 23rd minute with a thundering left shot from the edge of the box.

Both teams had plenty of chances to score during the immensely entertaining game. Al Ramtha's attackers failed to take advantage from Al Jazireh's defensive errors in the second

half and were unable to score any more goals.

Al Wahdat joined the list of winning teams Friday after beating Al Jeel with a dramatic goal in the second half.

Al Hussein's player, Arif Hussein, heads the scorers list with four goals. He was followed by four players with two goals each. They are Sahbi Sulaiman (Al Faisali), Jihad Abdul Munim (Al Wahdat), Salim Dhyabat (Al Ramtha) and Faiz Yousif (Al Hussein).

During the second round, nine goals were scored as compared to 15 in the first round.

The third stage of the Premier League will begin Tuesday when Al Hussein meets Al Jazireh at Irbid Stadium. Al Ramtha will host Al Qadisiya Wednesday at the same stadium. Al Ahli plays against Al Jeel at Al Hussein Sports City Thursday. Two matches will be held Friday: The first between Al Faisali and Al Arabi at Al Hussein Sports City and the second between Al Wahdat and Al Karmal at Irbid Stadium.

Stich hopes tennis stardom will not change his style

WIMBLEDON, England (AP) — He's the Wimbledon champion, a millionaire and one of the top four players in the world.

However, Michael Stich, the newest Grand Slam winner, may have to pay a price for his new fame and fortune.

"His life isn't going to be the same anymore," warned Boris Becker, the man Stich defeated 6-4, 7-6 (7-4), 6-4 Sunday in the men's final. "He is the Wimbledon champion. He is a star now."

Stich was largely unknown outside his native Germany two weeks ago. But winning Wimbledon ensures an end to anonymity. Becker, a three-time winner who knows all about the loss of innocence that accompanies a Wimbledon title, embraced his Davis Cup teammate at the net after the final point.

"I know how it feels. I know how important this day can be in a life," Becker said.

Stich, 22, had won only one tournament before Sunday. He had never played in a Grand Slam final.

By the end of the afternoon, all that changed. His \$384,000 winner's paycheck took him to nearly \$1.2 million in career earnings and boosted him three spots to no. 4 in the world rankings.

Stich said he hoped he is prepared for his new role.

"What is a star? That's what you have to ask. It's tough to say for myself," said Stich, who slammed 15 aces past Becker and repeatedly pounded backhand winners on service returns.

"I hope I'm not going to be a different person to my friends and to my family. I just hope I can be like I am now. For sure

there are going to be a couple of things that change, but I don't know what they are."

Becker cautioned that being a champion comes at a high cost. "He's not going to realise it now, but maybe in a couple of years' time he will realise the fact how much his life has changed and will change," he said.

"But it's up to him how he can cope with it. Now he's a star, but not everything that shines is gold. Some people can handle it, some people can't. It's a fine line."

Despite the loss, Becker remained no. 1 in the world — an honour he claimed two days earlier when Stefan Edberg lost to Stich in the semifinals. Becker and Edberg have been leapfrogging each other for the top men's ranking all year.

Stich's victory completed a German sweep at Wimbledon. For the second time in three years, Germans won the men's and women's singles titles.

Steffi Graf won the women's title on Saturday by defeating Gabriela Sabatini 6-4, 3-6, 8-6. Graf and Becker had accomplished the first German double in 1989.

Graf chases No. 1 spot

Now that she's winning Grand Slam titles again, Graf can start chasing Monica Seles to get her world no. 1 ranking back.

Graf was bit by injury and illness and sidetracked by a paternity suit — eventually proved unfounded — against her father.

Now she is fit, appears confident and is in sight of regaining the No. 1 spot she held from August 1987 until April this year.

when Seles captured it.

Seles, who had been seeded no. 1, withdrew from Wimbledon three days before the tournament was scheduled to start citing injury.

The Yugoslav is to meet with Gerry Smith, executive director of the Women's Tennis Association, in Florida some time this week to explain her late withdrawal. She was fined \$6,000 for not explaining the nature of her injury immediately.

Seles' absence gave Graf the stage at Wimbledon.

She showed no sign of a relapse into the poor form that brought a 6-0, 6-2 defeat against Arantxa Sanchez Vicario in the French Open semifinals.

She conceded only 23 games in six matches on her way to the final against Sabatini. The nearest any player got to taking a set off her was when fifth seed Mary Joe Fernandez took her to 6-4 in the second set in the semifinal.

In the final, she looked well in control when she took the first set.

But in a see-sawing final, Graf added determination and spirit to her already powerful game as Sabatini threatened to become the first Argentine to win the title.

Sabatini served at 5-4 in the final set but Graf never gave her a match point.

"It gave me so much pleasure to see myself getting through it, winning a tough match, winning a close match again, not letting up," Graf said. "I think it's important for the next. I needed it, just the win again. I needed it for myself."

Pretoria asks to be re-admitted to IAAF

ATHENS (AP) — South Africa Monday officially requested readmission to the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) and asked for speedy acceptance so it can compete at the World Athletics Championships next month.

The request followed an announcement last Friday that South Africa had complied with an IAAF requirement and formed a unified, non-racial sports body.

The IAAF had also linked admission to the abolishment of apartheid. The South African government repealed all major apartheid laws last month.

"I am pleased to officially announce here in Athens that we have succeeded in creating a new, unique federation in which athletes of all race and colour will be represented," Primo Nebiolo, the IAAF president said.

The new federation, the South African Amateur Athletic Association (SAAAA), asked for admission following Nebiolo's

announcement.

"Immediately following the statement by the IAAF president ... the SAAAA sent a letter to Dr. Nebiolo officially asking to be affiliated," an IAAF announcement said.

South Africa was suspended from the IAAF in 1976 as part of international campaign against apartheid. South African athletes have not competed in the Olympics since the 1960 games in Rome.

"We, the leaders of athletics, firmly believe that the moment has come to once and for all bring an end to the years of isolation which prevented the young people of South Africa from competing," Nebiolo said.

Some local sports officials in South Africa have said there probably would not be enough time to organise a team for the World Championships.

But the IAAF president said he received a letter from leading South African athletes asking that the decision "regarding the

return of the South African team be made as soon as possible and especially for the World Championships in Tokyo."

The IAAF Executive Council is to meet in Tokyo in mid-August shortly before the start of the World Championships. If the South African request is approved, athletes from that country would be able to take part in the championships.

"We are certain this request will be received with enthusiasm and interest," Nebiolo said.

The IAAF quoted the South African athletes as saying that "any delay or postponement of the return of South Africa to international sports competition would seem incorrect and again caused by a political decision."

Nebiolo added that the IAAF had prepared "together with the South Africans, a great programme of development to which our international federation will give financial and technical assistance."

GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF
& TANIAH HIRSCH
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ANSWERS TO WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1 — As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠ 7 ♠ AKQ65 ♠ K654 ♠ AQJ
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
2 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass

What do you bid now?
A. — You have a very good hand indeed, but as yet you have no idea where you want to play the contract. As a general principle, it is bad to jump shift in a suit where you don't want partner to raise, so we would reject three diamonds. Be content with two diamonds — if partner passes, we bet you don't have a game. If partner bids again, you will be well placed to judge what to do next.

Q.2 — As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠ 7 ♠ AKQ65 ♠ K654 ♠ AQJ
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
2 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass

What do you bid now?
A. — At least you've learned that partner probably has a six-card suit in which you opened. That's true only if one of your bidding room has been consumed. Here partner's response has deprived you of all breathing space, so two spades does not promise extra length. You are not strong enough for the "high reverse" to three diamonds, and two

no trump with a singleton to partner's suit is an abomination. Bid two spades.

Q.4 — Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ 5 ♠ AKQJ987 ♠ A1072
The bidding has proceeded:
East South West North
2 ♠ ?
2 ♠ ?

What do you bid now?
A. — It's a choice between the tactical underbid of three diamonds to keep open the possibility of three no trump, or the more descriptive jump to four diamonds. Since we are not partial to playing 7-4-1-1 hands at no trump, we'll opt for four diamonds.

Q.5 — Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ 7 ♠ J65 ♠ AK105 ♠ AJ98
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 NT Pass 3 ♠ Pass

What do you bid now?
A. — Partner's jump in spades asks you to choose between a spade or a no-trump game. You can't raise partner with only a doubleton, so bid three no trump. Don't worry about your heart weakness. Partner might have a card there, or the opponents might not be able to cash five tricks on the fly.

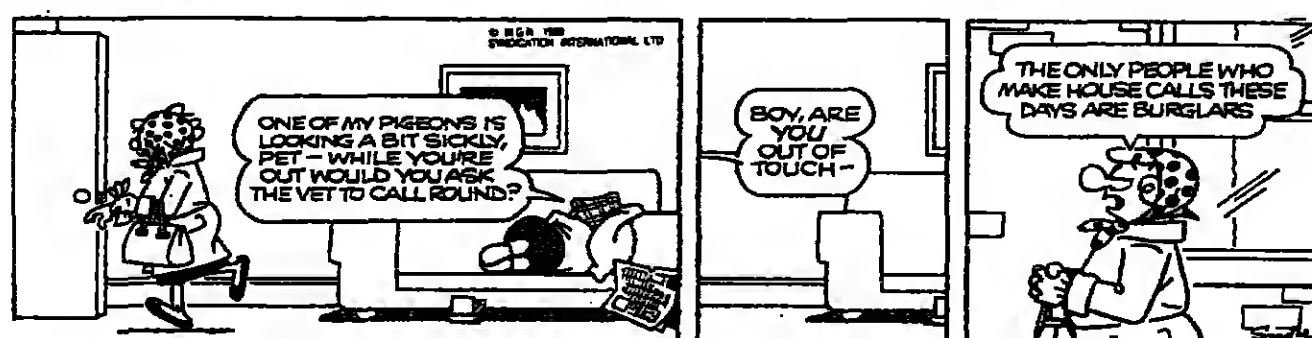
Q.6 — Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ K97 ♠ J92 ♠ A10 ♠ AEJ52
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 NT Pass 3 ♠ Pass

What do you bid now?
A. — In support of spades you have a maximum no trump. The way to convey that information to partner is with a cue-bid of four clubs. If partner can do no more than rebid four spades, pass. You've done your duty.

Peanuts



Andy Capp



Mutt'n'Jeff



HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR TUESDAY JULY 9, 1991

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: This is a good day for shopping and finding exactly what you desire to fill special personal needs. The sextile of the Moon to Jupiter brings pleasant temperaments and kind dispositions.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) Look at your home, your office, your closest friends and what will be needed to get all of these areas in perfect order as you wish.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) You can get everything about you in such good condition that your charm is increased and your ability to delight those you like greatly enhanced.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) Whatever you do not understand that is basic in your life can be found out by you now so make sure that you do gain the good will of others.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) There are a number of friends who are willing to go along with what you want done if you explain to them precisely what you have in mind.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Your position in your community demands that you make a special point to get your credit rating improved and attend scrupulously to obligations made.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 21) Your penchant for details is just great now, especially if you put this

to good use in some new slant on life that intrigues and makes you want to have it be yours.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) Whatever you have in mind that does require you keep your nose to the grindstone can bring you such forward advancement that nothing should be neglected.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) Going into all the specifics of that plan that you and your associated have in mind is just great now so get into your projects with passion.

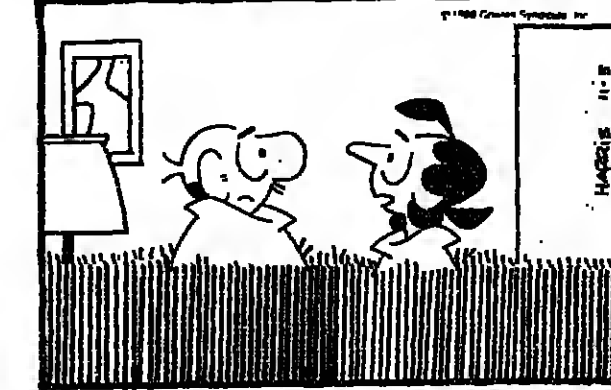
SAGITTARIUS: (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) You have so many projects to do that you don't know where to start but with anything is good and keep plugging away and great things are yours.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) Whatever you have in mind in the pleasure line is fine so make specific appointments early and be off to amusements that bring you joy.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) Your residence is the place to put your efforts now whether at home or thinking about increasing harmony at residence when you are in the world of action.

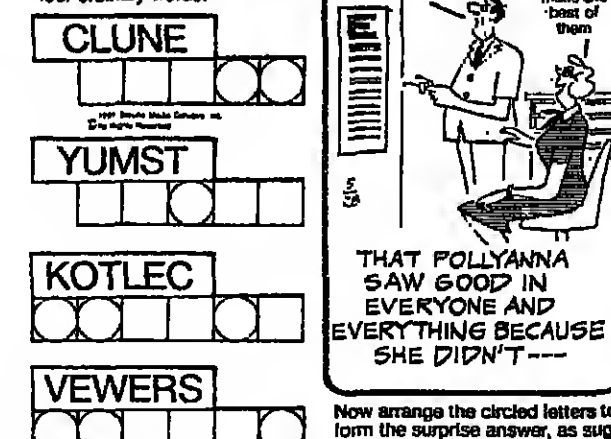
PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) There is some report to be analysed that means much to you right now and you are also able to get off to see companions not usually available.

THE BETTER HALF.



JUMBLE.

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

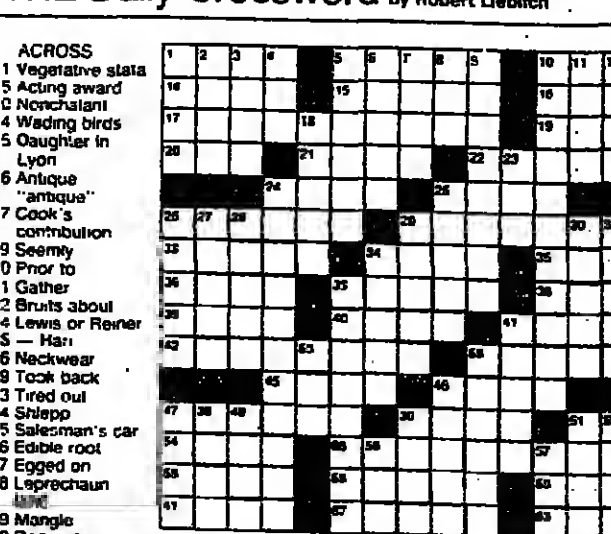


Print answer here:

Yesterday's Jumbles: CHAIR SMOKY QUIVER PARTY

Answer: What a revolting door tends to make some people — "PUSHY"

THE Daily Crossword by Robert Lieblich



Financial Markets

U.S. Dollar in International Markets

Currency	New York Close 5/7/1991	Tokyo Close 5/7/1991
Sterling Pound	1.6155	1.6245
Deutsche Mark	1.8253	1.8186
Swiss Franc	1.5745	1.5663
French Franc	6.1855	6.1595**
Japanese Yen	138.35	138.75
European Currency Unit	1.1260	1.1315

USD Per YTC

European Currency Unit 8.00 a.m. GMT

Currency	1 MTH	3 MTHS	6 MTHS	12 MTHS
U.S. Dollar	6.00	6.06	6.37	6.87
Sterling Pound	11.31	11.06	10.81	10.56
Deutsche Mark	8.75	9.12	9.25	9.31
Swiss Franc	7.87	7.87	7.51	7.68
French Franc	9.62	9.62	9.62	9.62
Japanese Yen	7.37	7.56	7.40	7.31
European Currency Unit	9.75	9.87	10.06	10.06

Interbank bid rates for money, excluding U.S. Dollars 1,000,000 or equivalent.

Metal	USD/Oz	JD/Gm	Metal	USD/Oz	JD/Gm
Gold	370.50	7.10	Silver	4.54	.10

Central Bank of Jordan Exchange Rate Bulletin Date: 8/7/1991

Currency	Bid	Offer
U.S. Dollar	.686	.690
Sterling Pound	1.1161	1.1217
Deutsche Mark	.3760	.3799
Swiss Franc	.4390	.4412
French Franc	.1115	.1121
Japanese Yen	.4962	.4987
Dutch Guilder	.3357	.3374
Swedish Krona	.1045	.1050
Italian Lira	.0508	.0511
Belgian Franc	.01816	.01825

Other Currencies Date: 8/7/1991

Currency	Bid	Offer
Moroccan Dirham	1.8100	1.8350
Lebanese Lira	.0750	.0775
Saudi Riyal	.1830	.1839
Kuwaiti Dinar		
Omani Riyal	.1860	.1873
Egyptian Pound	.1850	.2000
Omani Riyal	1.7600	1.7900
DAE Dirham	.1860	.1873
Greek Drachma	.3500	.3500
Cypriot Pound	1.3800	1.4100

CAN Indices for Amman Financial Market

Index	6/7/1991 Close	7/7/1991 Close
All-Share	112.41	112.34
Banking Sector	107.01	107.06
Insurance Sector	120.96	122.39
Industry Sector	117.99	117.68
Services Sector	128.25	127.63

Decimals .01, .05, .10

Tokyo orders big brokerages to curb business for 4 days

TOKYO (AP) — Finance Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto Monday ordered Japan's "big four" brokerages to restrict business for four days as a penalty for shady dealings that have rocked the financial industry.

The ministry also directed brokerages to stop compensating wealthy customers for millions of dollars in investment losses. That practice and financial dealings with gangsters touched off the scandal, which involved Nomura Securities Co., the world's largest brokerage.

The directives also applied to Daiwa Securities Co. and Yamaichi Securities Co.

A stern-faced Hashimoto announced the punishment at a packed news conference, saying there was "absolutely no excuse" for the behaviour of the brokerage firms.

"It's absolutely pitiful that this was going on in the market," he said.

In addition, the Tokyo Stock Exchange announced fines totalling about \$116,000 for the four brokerages for their dubious dealings.

Market analysts, however, were skeptical the punishment would be any more than an ineffective slap on the wrist.

"These penalties will have no impact whatsoever. The securities firms must be very happy about it," said Hiroshi Okumura, economics professor at Ryukoku University in Kyoto. "This will do them no harm at all."

Nomura responded immediately by saying more than 30 company officials, including the chairman and president, would take salary cuts for up to one year. Four other officials would resign for dealings with gangsters.

Nikko Securities Co. announced two officials resigned and 17 would take pay cuts. The disciplinary action came two weeks after the presidents of Nomura and Nikko resigned to take responsibility for the scandal.

It also came two days before Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu was



Ryutaro Hashimoto

to leave for a summit with President George Bush in the United States, where the scandal has focused unflattering attention on Japanese business practices.

Under the finance ministry directives the brokerages are not permitted to solicit business from corporate clients for four days beginning Wednesday.

The head offices of Nomura and Nikko, which also are accused of financial dealings with mobsters, also will be restrained from soliciting business during that period, Mr. Hashimoto said.

Individual investors, irate at the preferential treatment given wealthier clients, have been pulling money out of the stock market in disgust, analysts have said.

While issuing directives to stop compensation in principle, the ministry fell short of seeking to legally ban the practice.

According to Japan's national economic newspaper, the Nihon Keizai, the four brokerages withdrew a total of 5.1 billion yen (\$37 million) from their reserves in fiscal 1990 to compensate favoured clients.

Among the companies reported to have received compensation are Hitachi Ltd., Japan's largest electric equipment manufacturer, and Tokai Corp., a leading railway company.

Nikko and Nomura have been accused of making millions of dollars of loans to an ex-gangland boss and of pushing up prices of Tokyo stock in which he invested.

Britain asks Abu Dhabi for cash for BCCI

LONDON (R) — The British government has asked the ruler of Abu Dhabi to inject fresh cash into collapsed Bank of Credit and Commerce International S.A. (BCCI), the Bank of England said Sunday.

Sheikh Zaid Ben Sultan Al Nahayan and his family control 77.4 per cent of BCCI, which had its assets frozen Friday following allegations that senior executives fraudulently tried to conceal losses which had brought it to the brink of collapse.

"The shareholders in BCCI, that's mainly the royal family, have injected capital into the bank in the past and it is hoped they will do so again," a spokesman for the British central bank

said.

The money would be used to help ensure the orderly winding up of the bank's operations.

About £750 million (\$1.2 billion) were deposited with British branches of BCCI, of which £250 million (\$405 million) were held by British residents.

Many of BCCI's British customers came from among the Asian business community.

The Bank of England spokesman stressed there was no chance of the fund running out of money even if Sheikh Zaid turned down the request for fresh capital.

There has been no official statement in Abu Dhabi, but banking sources said Saturday that an official protest had been lodged with the Bank of England.

India sends 25 tonnes of gold to London

NEW DELHI (R) — India flew 25 tonnes of gold from its official reserves to London as collateral for future loans if needed to maintain payments on its huge foreign debt, central bank governor S. Venkitaraman said Monday. He told a news conference in Bombay that the gold was sent for deposit with the Bank of England Sunday. Indian news agencies reported. Mr. Venkitaraman said India would borrow against the gold if necessary to keep up its fight to avoid defaulting on foreign debts which bankers estimate at \$71 billion.

India is struggling with its worst economic crisis and foreign exchange reserves are down to only a few weeks of imports. International monetary sources in Washington said last week the central banks of Britain and Japan were trying to put together a loan of up to \$450 million for India.

Mr. Venkitaraman said the gold was sent to London under laws allowing the Reserve Bank of India, the central bank, to keep up to 15 per cent of its gold reserves abroad. In June, India did a "gold swap" of 20 tonnes of gold for \$200 million to keep up loan payments. It can get the gold back by repaying the money with a small amount of interest. The idea was to boost confidence in India, which has never defaulted on a foreign loan.

Lack of cash prevents Baghdad from buying vital food and medicine

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraq's trade minister, speaking before the arrival Monday of a top U.N. humanitarian envoy, said the Gulf war freeze on Iraq's foreign assets was preventing it from importing vital food and medicines.

Mr. Mohammad Mehdi Saleh said although U.N. sanctions had been eased to allow imports of food and medicine Iraq had been unable to finalise deals as it lacked the ready cash to pay exporters.

"Up to now we have no possibility of importing food and medicines," he told Reuters in an interview late Sunday. "It takes a long time because the (U.N.) sanctions committee did not give a direct policy towards our frozen money."

Relief agencies say infant mortality had doubled from its pre-war level of around 40 per 1,000 and malnutrition is a major problem. The health ministry says cases of typhoid are rising mainly because of the shortage of medicine.

Mr. Saleh said most of the estimated \$3.75 billion Iraq has invested abroad was in the United States, Britain or France.

"We know that the hostility from those three is well known, it is not expected that they will unfreeze our money easily," he added.

Mr. Saleh discounted gold payments and barter deals as a way round the problem. "We have

just a limited amount of gold which covers the currency... the only possibility is to allow us to export oil."

His comments preceded the arrival of Prince Sadruddin Aga Khan directing U.N. humanitarian relief in Iraq and Kuwait following the Gulf war which ended in late February.

A special U.N. team, which arrived in Baghdad a week ago, is preparing a report for the prince on the impact of sanctions imposed after Iraq invaded Kuwait last August. The trade ban is being maintained until Iraq complies with the conditions of the Gulf war ceasefire.

Mr. Saleh said Iraq, using reserves and internal production, could only cover about half its food needs. "We need around 600,000 tonnes of food per month."

He said Iraq had struck a 100,000 tonne wheat deal with Australia but delivery was being held up by lack of cash. It was also discussing a rice deal with Thailand but again cash was a problem. Iraq previously imported 90 per cent of its rice needs from the United States.

Mr. Saleh said Iraq had sent American and British companies invitations to trade. "They said we are not allowed by the government."

Relief officials say Yemen, Algeria, Libya, India and Morocco have donated some flour as had the World Food Programme and other charity and welfare

groups. Relief organisations also provide medicines.

The government provides rations of such staples as flour, oil, baby milk, sugar but these have to be supplemented from the private market where prices can be over 200 times higher.

At a casual glance, the markets of Baghdad and outlying towns look well stocked but with estimates of inflation hovering round 150 per cent a month and wages not rising — especially for relatively poorly paid sectors such as civil servants — life is a struggle.

A kilogramme of lamb currently cost 15 dinars (\$48 at the official rate) on the free market out of an average monthly salary of around 150 dinars.

"Families are spending 90 per cent of their income on food whereas previously it was only 30 per cent," Douglas Broderick of the charity Catholic Relief Services said.

Iraq's electricity industry — vital for a range of needs from air conditioning, water purification and sewage disposal to refrigeration of medicines in hospital — was a major victim of Gulf war strikes.

The health ministry says cases of typhoid were four times what they were in 1990.

"Unclean food, lack of personal and environmental hygiene and unclean water lead to the spread of such diseases," a spokesman told the government newspaper Al Jumhuriyah.

Help to markets seen as key to reducing poverty in world

WASHINGTON (AP) — The World Bank, biggest lender to developing nations, set out a new policy of "market friendliness" Sunday as the way to reduce poverty in the 1990s.

The friendly market concept puts emphasis on private production and trade, and encourages the sale of state-owned businesses to companies and individuals.

The bank has been under pressure from its biggest stockholder, the U.S. government, to do more for private business. Owed by 155 countries, its main goal is to increase production in poorer areas of the world so that they have more goods to go around.

The administration of President George Bush says encouraging business is the best way to do that.

The latest edition of the bank's "World Development Report," made public Sunday, combined support for the private sector with a conviction that governments can provide some things that business needs but cannot provide — especially healthier and better educated workers.

Criticism of the emphasis on

market friendliness came from the Overseas Development Council, a private study group.

"True development (is) ... improving the well-being of men, women and children around the world, and sustaining the environment on which rich and poor depend," its president, John Sewell, said in a statement.

The bank's major recommendations to Third World and eastern European governments: "Invest in people, including schools, health and family planning."

Help markets work by fostering competition and building infrastructure, things like roads and harbors.

Create freer conditions for trade and foreign investors; "Avoid big government deficits and high inflation."

Speaking more openly than in the past, the report also cited some Third World governments as corrupt and as spending too much on the military. It pointed out that some wealthy countries are open to the same criticism.

In some countries average in-

comes have quintupled over the past 40 years, the bank said. These are mostly countries where the government gives markets wide leeway to decide what goods should be produced: Taiwan, Botswana, Hong Kong, Singapore, South Korea.

Even China, though under communist rule, has been leaving more decisions to the market.

The average Chinese still makes only about \$350 a year, but the figure has been steadily rising.

The average South Korean earned \$4,400 in 1989, more than twice the figure for 1982.

The report, in preparation for months, outlined its new approach as a round of farewell parties began for Barber Conable, its president for the past five years. Mr. Conable, a former U.S. congressman, will be succeeded in September by Lewis Preston, who used to head the banks of the J.P. Morgan Group.

The report also noted that incomes have been going down since 1965 in 20 areas with a population of about 300 million.

They are mostly African countries, but they also include Argentina and Jamaica. In many of them the state has tried to keep a grip on the economy. Recently incomes have been dropping sharply in eastern Europe, where non-communist governments are now trying to loosen that grip. Eastern Europe has become an area of the bank's major concern.

Last month Mr. Conable worked out a compromise to enable the small part of the bank that lends to private business to increase its \$1.5 billion of annual lending by about \$150 million a year. The rest of the bank lends nearly \$23 billion a year to governments. It will make a study, to be ready in the fall, on whether the rest should also lend to business.

Originally, the U.S. treasury asked that the bank reserve half of all its lending for the private sector. Mr. Conable and some member governments resisted, arguing the bank can do a lot to improve the climate for business without changing the way it lends.

Rising unemployment in Canada throws doubt on recovery strength

OTTAWA (R) — Canada's unemployment rate jumped to 10.5 per cent in June, back to a peak it reached in March, raising new uncertainty about the strength of recovery from a year-long recession.

The number of unemployed rose by 40,000 to 1,453,000 in June, government agency Statistics Canada said.

"The relapse is consistent with the recovery not being as strong as some people were expecting," said Richard Beaulieu, treasurer of the Laurentian Bank of Canada.

Statistics Canada said: "There doesn't appear to be anything to indicate this is the peak. It looked earlier like we might have peaked at 10.5 per cent (in March), but now it's back up there."

Many analysts had expected the rate to drop in June from 10.3 per cent in May and 10.2 per cent in April as the goods-producing sector recovered from the recession, but a fall of 46,000 jobs in June offset a similar increase in May.

"The job losses are disappointing but are characteristic of a bottoming out of the economy," said Warren Jestin, chief eco-

nomist with the Bank of Nova Scotia.

"Unless we see some movement in the numbers of people finding jobs, it may delay the recovery a bit," said Fred Morley, an Atlantic Provinces Economic Council analyst.

Canada went into recession in April, 1990, but recent increases in housing starts, vehicle sales and gross domestic product had given hope the recession had ended.

But analysts said slow U.S. growth, low inventory levels, restraint in government tax and spending policies and high personal debt will dampen the economic rebound.

Economists expect attempts to reduce provincial and federal government deficits and high consumer debt levels to limit the strength of the recovery. High growth seen after the last recession in the early 1980s is not expected this time.

Cinema Tel: 677420

CONCORD

THE BIKINI SHOP

Show: 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30 p.m.

Cinema Tel: 675571

NUJUM

Tennessee Buck

Show: 12:30, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30 p.m.

Savage Will

Show: 3:30, 5 p.m. only

Cinema Tel: 634144

PHILADELPHIA

PRETTY WOMAN

Show: 12:30, 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30

Cinema Tel: 625155

RAINBOW

THE BEACH GIRLS

Show: 3:30

REVENGE

Show: 6:30, 8:30

Jordan Times Tel: 667171

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Haidar Al Amareh Establishment for Agriculture and Trade

Tender Announcement

Haidar Al Amareh Establishment for Agriculture and Trade wishes to buy 300 first-time pregnant cows of German or Dutch origin in accordance with the following terms:

- * The first-time pregnant cows should be free of physical defects provided that the Holstein percentage should not be less than 75%.
- * Cows should be 6-7 months pregnant upon selection.
- * Production of mother cow should not be less than 5000 kgs of milk during the first season.
- * Pregnant cow should weigh no less than 500 kilograms upon selection.
- * Insurance period should be one month following the arrival of first-time pregnant cows to the farm, provided that insurance coverage be as follows: 100% against death, 50% against miscarriage, and 100% against any bone fracture upon arrival at the farm, provided that meat price be credited to the insurance company.

Bidders can send in their bids as of today Tuesday July 9, 1991 and until July 28, 1991 to the offices of Haidar Al Amareh Establishment for Agriculture and Trade in Zarqa, Amman-Zarqa old road, near the Royal Jordanian, Fax 894774, Tel. 894842, 898342 Telex Tijarah Jo 41420, P.O. Box 7078.

Gorbachev to seek political boost, not cash at G7 summit

MOSCOW (R) — Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev appears aiming for political backing from major world leaders rather than hard cash handouts when he meets them in London after a group of seven summit next week.

In the final countdown to the meeting, the Kremlin chief and senior aides have begun signalling that he is unlikely to present an all-embracing economic reform plan there.

Mr. Gorbachev's foreign economic strategy adviser Yevgeny Primakov said no programme would be set out "but conceptual ideas illuminating the direction we intend to take."

"We are not talking of charity but of mutually beneficial cooperation," Mr. Gorbachev told visiting Mexican President Carlos Salinas de Gortari. "It is to be hoped that Western leaders have the imagination and wisdom to take this into account."

When two months ago he began his push to meet the leaders of the world's seven major industrialised states, Mr. Gorbachev's once high international stock as a reformer was in steep decline.

With the Soviet economy plunging deeper into crisis and the long-vaunted "unbreakable union" splintering, he had

appeared to swing back to more orthodox policies and to an alliance with conservative forces in the Communist Party and the military.

But in a dramatic turnaround, Mr. Gorbachev has again set his face toward economic and political change that, if carried through, could transform the Soviet Union into a Western-style parliamentary federation with a market economy.

Clearly aiming to display his commitment to market reform, and win the Western financial underpinning he needs, he quietly authorised radical economist Grigory Yavlinsky to prepare an economic plan with American specialists.

The plan, dubbed the "window of opportunity," has been condemned by hardliners as a blueprint for restoring capitalism. But Mr. Gorbachev argues it can be dovetailed with an earlier project by his Prime Minister Valentin Pavlov.

Mr. Pavlov has expressed doubts. He says his own plan approved earlier this year by the conservative-dominated union parliament, the Supreme Soviet, should be implemented first.

But Mr. Pavlov, who alarmed foreign business by accusing Western banks of seeking to

undermine the Soviet economy, says he would be happy to use Western finance if aspects of the Yavlinsky plan were adopted.

Mr. Primakov suggested last week that Mr. Gorbachev was seeking political backing for financial support for market reforms.

"There will be no manna from heaven, that is for sure," he told the Izvestia newspaper. "The meeting in London is only the beginning. We are entering the world economy, integrating into the world economic system."

Mr. Gorbachev has worked hard to clear the ground for a friendly reception from the leaders of G7 — the United States, Britain, Canada, France, Germany, Italy and Japan. The G7 holds its annual summit from July 15 to 17 in London.

In talks with nine Soviet republics which want to stay in the union, he has accepted they should have some economic and political autonomy. Hardliners see that as treachery.

To complete a new union treaty aimed at keeping the core of the country together, Mr. Gorbachev has set aside differences with Russian President Boris Yeltsin.

Mr. Gorbachev is nudging the once all-powerful Communist



Mikhail Gorbachev

Party, which he still heads, towards accepting a new programme closer to social democracy than Bolshevism and appears to have dropped his own earlier insistence on a "Socialist choice."

Gorbachev retains a belief in communism as an ideal but recognises that its precepts have been so discredited that it is no longer practical politics to promote them, said one Kremlin insider.

He has welcomed the forming of a new democratic movement outside the party by his former Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze, whose standing is high in the West, and has moved to reduce military pressure on the rebel Baltic republics.

Sri Lankan rebels disguised as soldiers kill 27

COLOMBO (R) — Tamil rebels dressed as soldiers killed 27 Muslims and Sinhalese in eastern Sri Lanka after they realised villagers knew they were in disguise, a military spokesman said Monday.

"Residents thought they were army men," he said. "But when they muttered words in Tamil, villagers shouted in alarm."

The separatist guerrillas then killed 18 people, including a baby girl, in the Muslim village of Puddur in Batticaloa and nine fishermen at Karapola village, eight kilometres away.

The Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) fighting for a separate homeland in the north and east, were responsible for Saturday's massacre, he said.

The rebels attacked with machetes, swords and guns when people raised the alarm, tying some victims to trees before killing them, villagers reported.

"They told us to come out of our houses and then shot at us," 14-year-old survivor Abdul Rahman said.

He said the rebels attacked while he was asleep. "I managed to run away and hide in the jungle until they left."

The guerrillas moved to Karapola where they stopped a van carrying nine fishermen, ordered them out and cut and hacked them with swords and machetes before shooting them and setting the van on fire, the military spokesman said.

Eastern Batticaloa district was the scene of a massacre by soldiers on June 12. A commission set up by President Ranasinghe Premadasa is investigating allegations that government troops killed up to 150 Tamils.

Batticaloa opposition parliamentarians said soldiers shot, beat and hacked to death the Tamil villagers in revenge for the death of two soldiers blown up by a rebel landmine.

In Colombo, authorities arrested four more men Sunday in connection with the June 21 bomb attack on the Defence Ministry's operational headquarters in the capital.

About 30 suspected Tiger rebels had been detained earlier in connection with the incident.

The bomb was planted in a van packed with explosives which exploded killing 24 people, including 11 soldiers.

The man believed to have masterminded the attack was found at an estate outside Colombo Thursday but killed himself by swallowing cyanide as police tried to arrest him.

Nepal arrests suspect in Gandhi murder case

NEW DELHI (R) — Police in Nepal have arrested a suspected Sri Lankan Tamil guerrilla in connection with the murder of former Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, the Press Trust of India (PTI) reported Sunday.

PTI said two people arrested Friday in New Delhi had contacted the man in the Nepal capital Kathmandu to plan the escape of a wanted suspect known as Sivarasan.

He is suspected of having masterminded the May 21 assassination in the southern state of Tamil Nadu.

PTI did not give the man's name or when he was arrested.

Mr. Sivarasan and Ms. Subha, a woman believed to have been a standby assassin for the bomb attack on Gandhi, have eluded police. Their full names have not been given.

The news agency quoted investigators as saying that diplomatic efforts were being made to bring

the arrested man, an activist of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), to India.

It also quoted them as saying they had foiled a plan to smuggle Mr. Sivarasan and Ms. Subha to Nepal with the arrests in Delhi of Kanaka Sabhapathy, a 70-year-old man, and Ms. Thirai, a 17-year-old girl, both Sri Lankan Tamils.

The plan was to take Mr. Sivarasan and Ms. Subha to Nepal and from there to Singapore or some South East Asian country where there are LTTE sympathisers, PTI said.

The LTTE, fighting for a separate homeland in Sri Lanka, is the prime suspect in the Gandhi murder.

Gandhi sent troops to Sri Lanka in 1987 to enforce an accord aimed at ending the violent separatist campaign. The troops ended up fighting the LTTE before they were withdrawn last year.

Defection of Russian faction deepens Soviet party rift

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet Communist Party is threatened by more divisions than ever after a report that a faction in the Russian Federation intends to form its own party.

Russian Television said Sunday the Communists for Democracy faction was expected to announce the creation of the Democratic Party of Russian Communists this week.

The announcement would be made Wednesday during the first day of a session of the republic's supreme legislature, the Congress of Peoples' Deputies, where the faction accounts for more than 100 of the 1,000 deputies, it said.

"We got this information from confidential reliable sources," newscaster Svetlana Sorokina told Reuters.

The congress will swear in Rus-

sian leader Boris Yeltsin as the republic's first directly-elected president.

The new party will undoubtedly support Mr. Yeltsin, because the founder of Communists for Democracy was Alexander Rutskoi, Mr. Yeltsin's victorious running-mate in the June 12 election.

Sunday's news came a few days after former Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze resigned from the Communist Party.

Mr. Shevardnadze and other leading liberals are forming a new broad-based reform group to challenge the Communists.

One of the founders of Mr. Shevardnadze's Democratic Reform Movement is Mr. Rutskoi, who with Mr. Yeltsin trounced Communist-backed candidates in the Russian presidential election.

Landslide kills 30 in China

PEKING (R) — Above 30 people were killed in southwestern China when a mudslide buried their village, the latest casualties in a series of rainstorms that have caused flooding throughout the country.

An edition of the Guizhou Daily received in Peking Monday said more than 50 houses were destroyed on July 1 when a mudslide hit an area near the western city of Liu Pan Shui. Thirty people died and three were injured.

Railway services between Guizhou's provincial capital of Guiyang and Kunming in nearby southwest Yunnan province were interrupted by flooding, which also submerged a power station, the newspaper said.

Railway officials said train services between Peking and Shanghai were also briefly interrupted Sunday after another storm front caused more flooding in the rain-battered region.

A spokesman for the Ministry of Railways said Monday that service had returned to normal, although flood relief officials were still on alert in Jiangsu and Anhui provinces.

The flood season has started with a vengeance in eastern China, killing hundreds of people and destroying millions of acres of cropland.

Meteorologists have forecast more downpours for July and August — traditionally the months with the heaviest rain.

Poor countries 'held back' by drinking

WASHINGTON (AP) — To the list of familiar reasons for the slow growth and social problems of poor countries can be added an often ignored element — alcohol. Having a cold beer after a hard day's work seems like an innocuous habit in many parts of the world, but what happens in a country where the wages are meager and just two bottles of beer cost half a day's pay?

The result is that many households have no money left over for necessities such as food, and children must go to bed hungry. According to one estimate, one-third of the malnourished children of San Pedro La Laguna, Guatemala, are victims of booze.

In Burkina Faso, formerly Upper Volta, a study of men in one region showed that they spent an average of \$84 a year on beer — 44 per cent of the West African country's per capita income, a diversion of scarce resources that has contributed greatly to the impoverishment of that area.

The same is true of Papua New Guinea, where it is estimated that the average household spends 30 per cent of its income on alcohol. Generally speaking, in countries where drinking is a problem, it is the men who imbibe and the women and children who pay the price.

The consequences of alcohol consumption in poor countries are examined by Lori Heise in the July-August issue of Worldwatch magazine, published by the Worldwatch Institute, a Washington research centre.

She concludes that drinking retards growth in poor countries no less than more familiar culprits such as inflation, foreign debt and economic mismanagement. Not surprisingly, unrestrained drinking makes things worse.

"Excessive alcohol use is more than just a health issue in the Third World, it is a development issue," Ms. Heise writes. "Where severe drinking lowers productivity, reduces agricultural output and undermines progress toward improved health for women and children."

She points out that treatment of alcohol-related diseases forces hard-pressed governments to divert resources from other vital needs. In Mexico, for example, cirrhosis of the liver — a disease closely associated with heavy drinking — is the leading cause of death among men 25 to 54. In Trinidad, 47 per cent of males admitted to the country's largest hospital have medical problems related to drinking.

Ms. Heise says alcoholism is a major contributor to food shortages in Africa. She quotes from a book, *Alcohol: Another Trap For Africa*, by Vanna Beckman: "A frequent phenomenon is that women must carry the whole burden of agricultural work, besides all their other tasks, while husbands are boozing. They simply cannot produce more."

Ms. Heise disputes the notion in many countries that a local alcohol industry is an economic benefit because it provides jobs, generates revenues for the government through taxes and serves as an outlet for agricultural surpluses.

6 injured in fresh bomb attack on Belfast police

BELFAST (R) — Six people, including a baby and three policemen, were injured Sunday night in a bomb attack on a police vehicle in the Northern Ireland capital, Belfast, the second of its kind in less than 24 hours.

A police spokesman, quoted by Britain's Press Association agency, said a device was thrown at a police land rover patrolling north Belfast.

Three of the vehicle's passengers were taken to hospital, along with a woman, her baby and another man present at the scene of the attack.

Their condition remained unknown and no one immediately claimed responsibility for the attack, which followed a similar raid in the early hours of Sunday on another police vehicle in the same area.

The attacks followed the collapse on July 3 of landmark talks between Catholic and Protestant politicians from the strife-torn

British-ruled province.

About 3,000 people have been killed in two decades of sectarian violence in Northern Ireland, where the Irish Republican Army (IRA) is fighting to end British rule.

Meanwhile two armed IRA suspects used a pistol hidden in a shoe to escape from a high security jail in London, embarrassing the government at a time of heightened security following recent IRA bombings.

Irishman Nesson Quinnivan and Pearce McAuley from Northern Ireland, regarded by police as dangerous, were being escorted from a church service Sunday when Mr. McAuley produced the gun from his trainer shoe.

Shots were fired at wardens to keep them at bay, then the two clambered down a high wall and hijacked a car after shooting its driver in the leg.

They were still at large Monday morning.

Amnesty cites 'disturbing' rights violations in Asia

LONDON (AP) — In its annual survey of human rights around the world, Amnesty International reported "disturbing human rights violations" in Asia, including torture, arbitrary arrests and increased executions.

The London-based human rights group catalogued "disappearances" and extrajudicial executions in Sri Lanka, increased executions in China, torture or ill-treatment in many countries and arrests without cause throughout much of Asia.

"Asia... was the stage for disturbing human rights violations," Amnesty International said in its 1990 report on 141 countries released this week.

It said torture, ill-treatment or poor detention conditions were reported in China, India, Pakistan, Burma, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, South Korea and Thailand.

The report said thousands of people had been extrajudicially executed or had "disappeared" in Sri Lanka, "where security forces continued to have to power to dispose of bodies secretly."

"Victims included babies and their mothers, children, and elderly men and women. In Batticaloa town alone over 2,200 people reported 'disappeared' between June and October (1990), Amnesty International said.

The Sri Lankan government had taken no steps to investigate the thousands of "disappearances" reported in recent years and it had not responded to repeated requests from Amnesty International to send a delegation to the country, the human rights group said.

"Disappearances" were also reported in the Philippines, where over 50 people "disappeared" after being detained by government-backed forces, it said.

Amnesty International said one man, Ruben Medina, was found dead after he was abducted by government forces. The report said an autopsy showed Medina had been shot 28 times, his skull destroyed by a bullet and his genitals severed.

A family of 18, including a pregnant woman and six children, were also reportedly killed by government forces, the report

said. The Philippines defence secretary reportedly ordered the temporary suspension of those allegedly responsible for the family's killing but no one had been brought to justice by the end of 1990, Amnesty International said.

The rights group reported an "unprecedented rise in violence and killings by separatist groups in several regions of India... accompanied by a similar rise in politically motivated killings by government forces in which many hundreds of people died."

The human rights organisation said "torture remained widespread" in India with scores of people killed in police and military custody "apparently as a result of torture." Amnesty International said there were well-documented reports of women being raped by security forces during house-to-house searches in Jammu and Kashmir.

There were at least 10,000 political prisoners held in India, Amnesty International said.

In China, thousands of pro-democracy protesters arrested in 1989 were still detained without charge or trial, the report said.

In January 1991, leading activists involved in the 1989 pro-democracy protests were sentenced, sometimes to long terms in prison, after unfair trials, Amnesty International said.

"At least 370 prisoners — and probably hundreds more — were sentenced to death and executed after unfair trials," the report said.

Amnesty International said it had recorded 750 firing squad executions in China in 1990, "the highest number since 1983."

There were widespread arbitrary arrests reported in many countries in Asia, the report said.

Three-hundred and fifty political prisoners were held in Burma and hundreds more held in Afghanistan, Cambodia and China, according to the study.

The human rights group reported some progress for human rights in Asia. Widespread anti-government protests in two countries in Asia — Nepal and Bangladesh — resulted in new governments and legal and constitutional reforms in 1990, according to the 280-page report.

Pyongyang threatens to withdraw nuclear inspection offer

SEOUL (R) — North Korea threatened Monday to go back on a decision to discuss outside inspection of its nuclear facilities if the July 15-17 Western summit in London attempts to pressure Pyongyang on the issue.

The isolated Communist country's refusal to open its secret nuclear plant at Yongbyon to international security has fuelled fears in Washington, Tokyo and other Western capitals that it is developing nuclear weapons.

A commentary in the ruling party daily Rodong Sinmun Monday denounced U.S. moves to bring up the question of nuclear inspection at the London G7 summit of seven industrial democracies as "a robber-like arbitrariness."

"The United States is engaged in busy lobbying to include a resolution urging (North Korea) to unconditionally accept nuclear inspection in the political declaration of the summit... and Japan is playing the role of a zealous conspirator," the daily said.

"If a resolution for international pressure... over the 'nuclear inspection' is included in the final declaration... we cannot but reconsider our progressive measure concerning the nuclear safeguards accord."

The article, circulated by the official North Korean News Agency monitored in Tokyo, said North Korea had all along made sincere efforts to resolve the dispute.

It said Pyongyang, which has signed the nuclear non-proliferation treaty, last month notified the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) that it was willing to sign a nuclear safeguards accord.

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U.S. Navy to develop cheaper submarine

WASHINGTON (AP) — The first Seawolf nuclear-powered attack submarine has yet to be finished, but the navy already is rushing to develop a cheaper model.

The navy insists that the new Centurion submarine programme will supplement, not replace, the costly Seawolf. But a key congressional leader said the push for a less expensive sub reflects the navy's resignation to fiscal reality.

"It's like when you go to the supermarket. When you can't afford a sirloin steak you get hamburger," said Congressman Charles Bennett, chairman of the House Armed Services Seapower Subcommittee.

The sirloin of submarines is the Seawolf.

At \$2 billion per copy, it is the most expensive submersible ship the navy has ever purchased. The Seawolf is designed to outperform the best of the Soviet Navy.

Great steel sections of the first Seawolf, some 42 feet (12.6 metres) in diameter, are ready to be welded together at the electric boat division of General Dynamics Corp. in Groton, Conn. General Electric Co. in Syracuse, N.Y., is developing a sophisticated computer brain that will control the sub's weaponry. The first ship is scheduled to be commissioned in 1995.

But the sky-high price tag has brought down criticism and controversy on the Seawolf programme. The congressional General Accounting Office (GAO) has

reported twice that the Seawolf's computer system is woefully inadequate. Congressman John Conyers, chairman of the House Government Operations Committee, said the Seawolf programme, "could run aground," if the problems go uncorrected.

Mr. Bennett said a 25 per cent cut in the shipbuilding budget forced the navy to cut its Seawolf production rate from three to one per year. The navy saw its plans for a 100-ship submarine fleet evaporate and saw its goal of keeping two sub-building shipyards in business imperilled.

Electric Boat and its rival in Virginia, the Newport News Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Co., say a construction rate of one Seawolf per year won't keep both shipyards afloat.

One man returns to Yugoslavia in time for civil war

KOSTANJEVICA, Yugoslavia (AP) — Andrej Smrekar came home from Harvard a week before the revolution with 20 cases of his precious art books. Now they are barricading his basement window.

Mr. Smrekar, who just received a Ph.D. in art history at age 37, directs a museum of sculpture and impressionist paintings in this Slovenian village near the Croatian border.

For him, Slovenian secession has brought new hope for a different life, but he expects a tense situation to get worse before it gets better.

When Mr. Smrekar scans the sky, his binoculars pick up Yugoslav Air Force helicopters flying low over the river out back. He has closed his museum and sheltered its contents, fearing federal troops might choose it for a bivouac.

Last week, the republic's defence force fought Yugoslav tanks in nearby woods. A truce has been struck in Slovenia, but Mr. Smrekar knows the Yugoslav crisis could explode suddenly into something very bloody.

"We have done it, we're free, there's no turning back," he said.

"Soll, it is far from over. Who knows what will happen next?"

The Serbian nationalists who oppose the independence declarations of Slovenia and Croatia will not give in easily, he is sure, while Slovenes and Croats say they will pay any price for self-determination.

From backward hamlets deep in Croatia to the lovely mountains of Slovenia, people who regard themselves as former Yugoslavs say hatreds rooted in history leave them no choice but to fight if necessary.

Most insist the issue is not personal animosity toward Serbs, the dominant Yugoslav ethnic group, but fear that resurgent Serbian nationalism will keep them from casting aside authoritarian central control and prospering.

While Slovenian President Milan Kucan speaks of "secession," Croatian President Franjo Tudjman uses the word "dissociation."

Each faces a different situation, but both are driven by a similar force.

"This process was self-evident since 1987, when Slobodan Milosevic came to power in Serbia," said Uros Dujšin of Zagreb

University. "He's the father of Tudjman. He induced Croatian nationalism."

Mr. Milosevic is the hardline nationalist leader of the Serbia. His ascension to power boosted nationalism in Yugoslavia's largest republic, and Croatia and Slovenia have been seeking greater and greater autonomy ever since.

While intervening in Slovenia in a bid to halt that republic's takeover of international border posts, the army has in Croatia moved to halt escalating warfare between Croatian and Serbian militants.

Unlike Slovenia, which is nearly ethnically homogeneous, Croatia has a large Serbian minority. About 600,000 of its 5 million people are Serbs.

Antagonisms in Yugoslavia, a nation born in the ashes of World War I, are age old and deeply seated.

"The trouble is that it has gone too far now," said Borut Smrekar, Mr. Andrej's brother, a symphony conductor and former soldier.

He said Slovenia's declaration of independence was meant as shock treatment, a message to fight if I have to. We have no other way."

Japanese heads Forbes billionaire list

NEW YORK (R) — A Japanese real estate tycoon said to be worth about \$15 billion has edged out a compatriot for the title of world's richest person, the U.S. business magazine Forbes said. But the United States is still home to more billionaires than any other country, the magazine said in its new issue dated July 22.

The United States can boast 64 billionaires with a total net worth of \$207 billion while Japan ranks second with 41 worth more than \$2 billion and Germany comes a close third with 40 billionaires. Taikicburo Mori, 87, whose Tokyo real estate holdings are worth about \$15 billion, beat out Seibu Railway magnate Yoshizaki Tsutsumi, 57, who had topped the U.S. magazine's annual list for four years. But Forbes cautioned that Mr. Tsutsumi's wealth, valued at more than \$14 billion, is held through a 40 per cent stake in holding company Kokudo Keikaku. Forbes said it does not know who owns the other 60 per cent and that is speculation it may be Mr. Tsutsumi himself. If so, he would be worth \$35 billion, ranking him far and away to be the world's richest person. American Sam Moore Walton and his family weighed in with \$18.5 billion. Walton, the founder of the U.S. Wal-Mart Stores chain, would be the world's wealthiest man had he not opted to split his fortune a few years ago among family members. The Du Pont family made the list with coffers stuffed with some \$10 billion, as did the Hearsts, the Rockefellers, the family of the late Walt Disney, Albert and Ralph Reichmann, developers of the giant Canary Wharf commercial property in London.

2 hurt in 2nd running of bulls

PAMPLONA, Spain (AP) — Runaway bulls charged on a Swedish man and a Norwegian woman Monday, injuring both seriously in the second day of Pamplona's week-long running of the bulls festival, officials said.

Hospital Dr. Navarro doctors operated on Torly Urban, a 23-year-old from Sweden who received an 8-inch (20-centimetre) gash in his right thigh. Onlookers said the bull charged down on him, tossing him in the air for several seconds and locking his horn inside his thigh. Urban was released when several bystanders diverted the bull, but bled profusely. The woman, 24-year-old Aime Karin Ruan, was treated for a 4-inch (10-centimetre) wound, also in the thigh. Both remained in the hospital. Three others, Pamplona residents Fernando Arduana, 46, and Santiago Barba, 36, and 19-year-old Laura Garcia Ryan from Texas, were also treated for concussions, none caused by bulls, and released.

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